MADRAS INFORMATION

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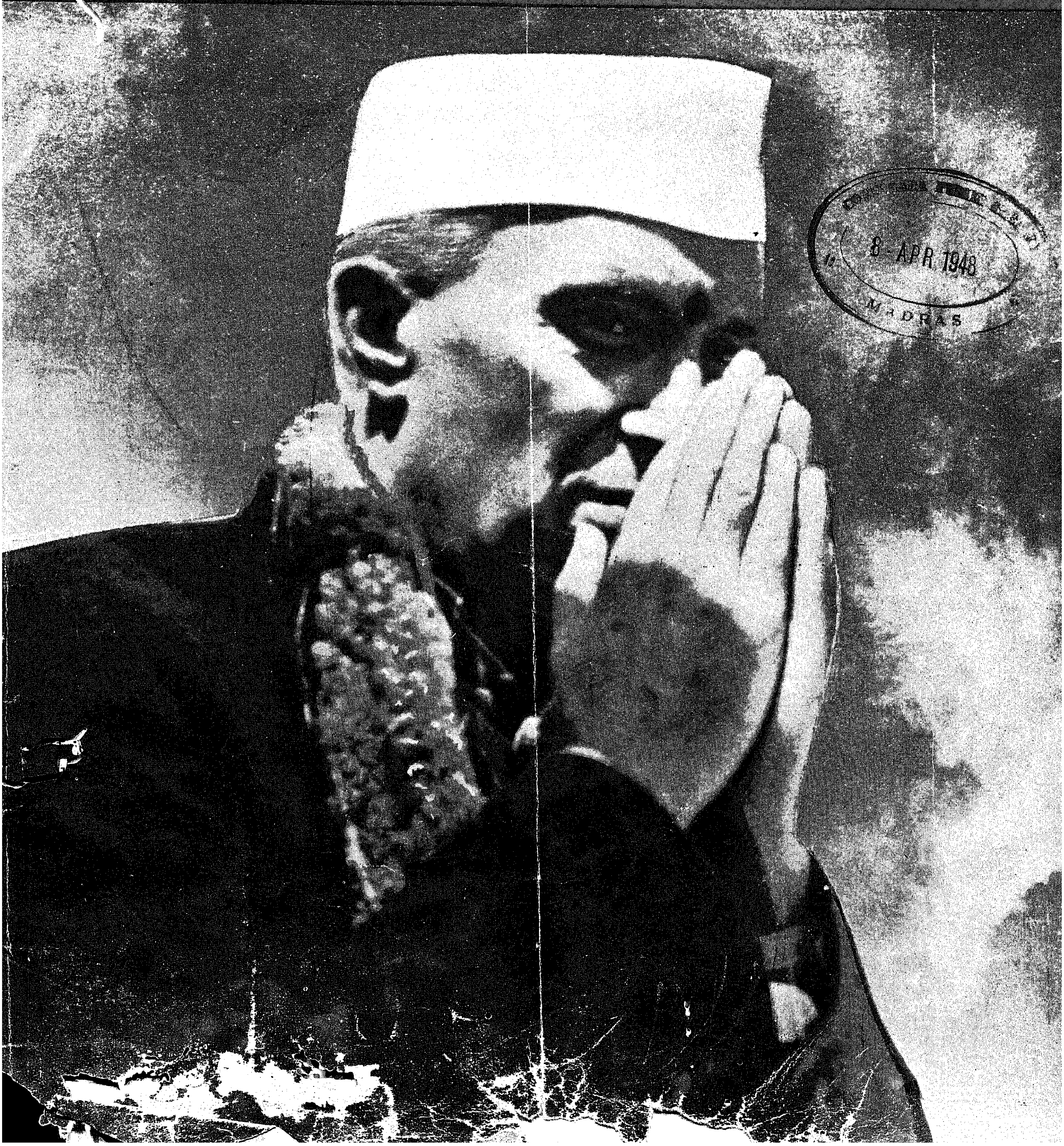
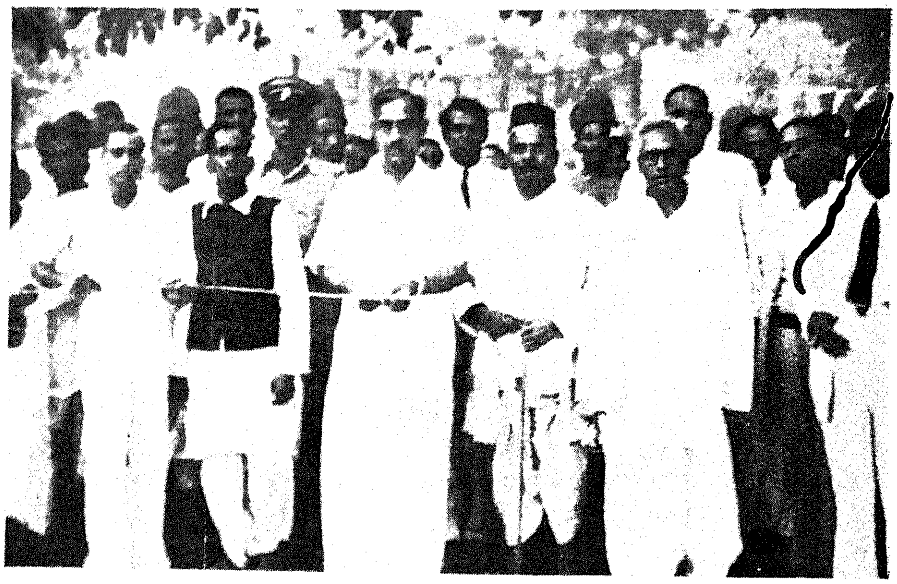


8 - APR 1948 MADRAS

Towards Better Agriculture

8-APR 1949

Hon'ble Sri K. Madhava Menon, Minister for Agriculture opened the Agricultural Exhibition and Cattle Show at Mahanandi, Kurnool district, on 9th March 1948



Hon'ble Sri K. Madhava Menon is inspecting a tractor exhibited in the Exhibition

The Hon'ble Sri K. Madhava Menon is inspecting the cattle in the Cattle Show

Madras Information

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Vol. I, No. 6 "WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE" April 1, 1948

Madras Government's Irrigation Policy

THE voting of demands for grants to various departments is a very important annual constitutional procedure which is also intended to be a safeguard against expenditure being incurred from public funds without the approval of the Legislature. It is the constitutional right of the Legislature to scrutinize and examine every demand for a grant in all its aspects before voting the amount required by the Executive and it is an occasion on which the Executive Government has to carry with it the vote of the people's representatives for the work and policy of individual departments. It is the sphere of the Government to execute policies and programmes approved by the Legislature and to carry on the administration in accordance with those policies; but it is the Legislature which votes the funds necessary for the implementation of the policies and for carrying on the administration.

Annual Stock-taking

IT is, therefore, appropriate that the presentation of the annual Budget demands should have been taken the fullest advantage of by our Legislators to bring to the notice of the Government the diverse needs and grievances of the people with regard to the working of the different departments and to secure assurances from the Government about the execution of different schemes and programmes or at least to get indications as to what the Government propose to do. In other words, it is an occasion for an annual stock-taking, for exchange of views and for putting forward suggestions and ideas, and generally to ensure that the people's requirements are brought prominently before the Government. It is the time-honoured principle of "Redressal of Grievances before voting of Supplies" that is involved. Hon'ble Ministers are on the alert during this period to make a note of public grievances and demands and anxious to assure members of their readiness to redress them, subject, of course, to the essential considerations that the requirements can be met, that the schemes are feasible and that certain schemes are of relatively greater urgency than others and therefore have to be accorded a higher priority.

Some Vital Principles

DURING the debate on the demand for "Irrigation," for [illegible] number of suggestions were made by [illegible] representing different districts for the [illegible]vement of irrigation facilities in their areas and Government were impressed with the need for taking up for execution particular irrigation projects in which they or the areas they represent are interested in. In his reply the Hon'ble Sri M. Bakthavatsalam, Minister for Public Works, emphasized two or three fundamental considerations which constitute the basic principles of the Government's irrigation development policy. Considering that at the present moment, the imperative necessity is for augmenting our food resources, every irrigation scheme proposed will be examined from the standpoint of the extent to which it would contribute to the achievement of this all-important objective. At the same time the schemes taken up should also be such as would advance the general economic development of the country. The claims of the smaller and the bigger irrigation projects on the attention of the Government may be apparently irreconcilable and unadjustable; but actually, there is no inherent conflict and there is ample scope for both major and minor projects and Government are interested in the promotion of both according to the needs of the times. Major and bigger projects like Tungabhadra will necessarily take a long time for investigation and completion and while their benefits are likely to be vast, when they are completed, the practical utility of a big project in process of construction in the context of the immediate and present needs cannot be much. On the other hand to serve the immediate demands of the "Grow More Food" campaign and the insistent demands for water for

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irrigation purposes for the lands already under cultivation, the construction or repair of village tanks, irrigation channels and other minor irrigation works is calculated to be of greater significance and demands urgent attention.

Betterment Fee

THE Minister pointed out that the Government were fully alive to the need for improving important supply channels in the districts and that they were undertaking the clearance of those channels by the levy of a small fee. There is also the proposal to levy invariably, a betterment fee on lands that will be brought under cultivation on account of a new irrigation source, and this will be incorporated in the proposed comprehensive legislation relating to irrigation. The idea behind the levy of a betterment fee requires to be clearly understood. It is that the cultivators who directly benefit by the proposed improvement of an irrigation source should bear at least a part of the expenditure incurred from public funds on their repair work. The principle is—and it is a perfectly understandable principle—that when an individual or a section of the population are in a position to derive particular advantage from an item of expenditure of funds from the general revenues, they should be prepared to contribute a share of that expenditure themselves instead of its being charged wholly on the general tax-payer.

Question of Big Projects

THE question of the progress of work in connection with some major projects like Tungabhadra and Ramapadasagar has constantly recurred in recent months and criticisms are made that progress in connection with them is rather slow. The exact position in connection with these projects had been explained more than once on behalf of the Government in press communiques and statements on the floor of the House, but it bears reiteration. The Tungabhadra Project is proceeding according to programme, particularly after the recent agreement arrived at between the Chief Engineers of the Madras and Hyderabad Governments in regard to some technical points concerning the dam site and the materials to be used in the construction. The difficulty of getting labour in sufficient strength to carry on the construction work had proved an impediment at times but is being got over. It is expected that, as originally contemplated, the project would be completed by 1952, and when it is completed it will benefit important parts of Rayalaseema, particularly Bellary and Kurnool districts. It may incidentally be pointed out here that the Government are anxious to ensure the development of Rayalaseema economically, educationally and industrially, and for that purpose they have been giving priority to various schemes intended to benefit that area, which had been neglected or which have been pending for long.

AS regards Ramapadasagar, Mr. Bakthavatsalam pointed out—it will be more appropriate to say that here-emphasized the point—that the scheme, which has been declared as "unquestionably feasible" by the Board of Consulting Engineers, is not being delayed because of the prolongation of investigation, which is actually nearing completion, but because understandings arrived at regarding submersion of lands with the neighbouring provinces and states have to be confirmed on the one hand and on the other there is the difficulty in procuring the necessary machinery and equipment from foreign countries. The latter handicap is a particularly hard one to overcome with all the anxiety that the Government may exhibit with regard to them and the allegation that the investigating engineering staff are lethargic about pushing through the investigation is unsustainable in the face of these considerations. The hugeness of the project and its wide ramifications make it necessary that there should be consultations with the Government of India, who may be willing to give a grant for the project in view of its national importance. When these preliminary hurdles are successfully negotiated it would be possible to proceed with its execution without any interruption. In the meantime the Government have asked for a token grant from the Legislature for the project, which should be taken as a tangible indication of their anxiety to push it through.

Thorough Investigation Essential

THE Minister also explained the position with regard to the Kistna-Pennar and Gandikota projects and the advantages which are likely to flow from them to some of the Rayalaseema and Nellore districts, when they are completed. Preliminary investigations in connection with these projects are proceeding.

On the whole, the Government's irrigation programme is a comprehensive one and brings within its embrace the whole province. It is but natural that there should be some delays in carrying through a whole list of items when the obstacles in the way of their being carried through, like dearth of adequate technical personnel and machinery are somewhat insuperable and have to be tided over, but as the Hon'ble Minister said, no project can be taken up without adequate and thorough investigation though when once a project is taken up there can be no question of stopping work thereon.

It is the fundamental law of Nature, without exception, that Nature produces enough for our wants from day to day; and if only everyone took enough for himself and nothing more, there would be no pauperism in this world, there would be no man dying of starvation.

—*Mahatma Gandhi.*

Shape of Things

"Jala Usha"

On the 14th March, India's Prime Minister performed at Vizagapatam the ceremony of launching the first Indian built ocean-going steamer. The event constitutes a landmark in the history of this country. Every student of history knows that this country has a glorious maritime past. At a time when the front-ranking maritime nations of the present day were far in the background, India's ships ploughed the waves of the distant seas. Her extensive commercial intercourse with countries both in the east and the west in ancient times is a commonplace of history. But in modern times, her ship-building industry has languished. The revival of this industry and the restoration of India to her pristine maritime glory is one of the major responsibilities of the Government of Free India. It is gratifying that this fact has been recognized and the first move in this direction is the launching of *Jala Usha* by India's Prime Minister. The Prime Minister in the course of his address stressed the preparedness of the Government of India to do everything that lay in their power to foster the ship-building industry in this country, because on the advancement of that industry depends to a large extent the capacity of India to defend her long coastline. He also mentioned the possibility of Vizagapatam being developed into a major port of national importance.

The visit of India's Prime Minister is also significant in that it is his first visit to this province after the country has attained freedom. The Prime Minister had a crowded programme. He spoke on many subjects in his own unambiguous and inimitable way.

Questions and Answers

Following our invitation to readers for questions to be answered through the columns of the *Mahras Information* we are glad to have received certain questions from among our readers. The very fact that questions are being received is a healthy sign in that it shows the intelligent interest the public are taking in Governmental activities. It is an important fact which bears repetition that the success of a democratic state depends upon the intelligent interest and co-operation of the people in the work of the Government. In a democracy, the State is not something apart or different from the people and the healthy existence of the State depends upon the healthy co-operation of the people.

One of the questions received relates to what our correspondent calls "Irrigation Advisory Committees." It may be recalled that originally Government directed that Executive Engineers of all divisions should hold conferences with the leading ryots annually or more frequently if necessary in each taluk in the deltaic tracts, and in each Revenue division of the non-deltaic areas in order to ensure close touch between the P.W.D. authorities and the ryots. A year ago, the position created by this arrangement was reviewed and Government replaced these conferences by half-yearly district irrigation conferences. These are attended by Revenue officers as well as officers of other nation-building departments. The conferences are intended to be a forum for ryots to ventilate their difficulties and get redress. Representative ryots selected in consultation with M.L.A.'s and M.L.C.'s as well as departmental officers also attend the conference. The Government are watching the work of these conferences with interest.

Another question relates to the new well subsidy scheme. A sum of Rs. 1·50 crores has been provided in 1947–48 for the grant of subsidies under the new well subsidy scheme. The estimated requirements of the Collectors of different districts work out to 35,700 wells besides the repair of 170 old tanks and the construction of 220 new tanks in the districts of South Kanara and Malabar. The Government have not sanctioned any scheme for subsidizing tube well irrigation by agriculturists. While examining the Government of India's offer, it was considered that irrigation by bore wells on a large scale like those of the Punjab or the Gangetic plains was not possible in this province but irrigation of small areas by a large number of bore wells each not yielding more than 50 gallons per minute was feasible along the coastal alluvial areas or along river banks.

Pudukotta

The Pudukkottai State, with an area of 1,179 square miles is bounded on the north and the west by the Trichinopoly district, on the south by the Ramnad and on the east by Tanjore district. The population is 438,348. The State resembles in its physical features the up-land parts of the east coast of the Madras Presidency and consist for the most part of a plain of somewhat sparsely cultivated dry land interspersed with a large number of rain-fed tanks and traversed by a few jungle streams. The state, before the lapse of paramountcy was under direct relations with the Government of India through the Resident for the Madras States with his headquaters at Trivandrum. His Highness Sri Brihadamba Das Raja Rajagopala Tondaiman Bahadur, ninth in succession to Raghunatha Tondaiman, founder of the Ruling House, is the the ruler of the State and is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

The various departments of the State are constituted on the British Indian model. The main occupation of the people is agriculture; the principal foodcrops are ragi and rice and pulses are largely grown. The State is well provided with roads. The main line of the South Indian Railway from Madras to Dhanushkodi, which forms the shortest route to Ceylon passes through the State.

In early times, a part of the State belonged to the Chola Kings while the southern part was under the Pandya Kings of Madura. There are evidences of pre-historic settlements all over the State and some villages are mentioned in Tamil works of the early centuries of the Christian era. The State is rich in inscriptions, temples and art treasures belonging to all the dynasties that ruled over the territory, from 7th Century A.D.

It was during the Carnatic Wars that the relations of the State with the British began, when during the siege of Trichinopoly by the French in 1752, the Tondaiman of the time rendered valuable service to the Company's cause. He was also of much service in the wars with Hyder Ali and Tippu Sultan as a reward for which a grant of territory subject to the condition that it should not be alienated was made in 1806.

Press Notes, Releases, etc.—A Digest

Diet Surveys

The Government have directed that diet surveys be carried out in Dendulur Firka in the West Godavari district and in Avanashi Centre in the Coimbatore district by the Nutrition Officer, Food Department, Government of Madras, and a report submitted to the Government. [March 2]

Reconstituted Milk Powder

The Government of Madras have directed that the scheme for the distribution of reconstituted milk to school children in the districts of Anantapur, Bellary, Salem, Ramnad, Vizagapatam, Malabar, Tinnevelly and Coimbatore be unofficially continued beyond the period of four months from the date of its revival, sanctioned in their order, dated 15th July 1947, until the stock of milk powder left over at the distribution centres in these districts is exhausted and that the services of Mr. P. T. Thomas, Member of the Friend's Service Unit, be continued up to 31st March 1948 for supervising the working of the scheme.

The Government have also authorized the sanction of free supply of milk powder, out of the surplus stocks available in certain districts, to deserving institutions in those districts or the adjoining districts and also the sale of milk powder to the public simultaneously with the operation of the reconstituted milk distribution scheme and without detriment to it, wherever it is being continued. With a view to quicken the disposal of stocks of milk powder in certain centres like Harpanahalli in the Bellary district, the Government have directed the Board of Revenue to divert the excess stocks to some other areas in the same district or adjoining districts.

The Government have also directed that adequate measures should be taken to ensure that the spoilt milk powder stocks should be withdrawn from issue to school children and sold only for purposes other than human consumption. [March 2]

Teaching Grants to Aided Secondary Schools

In their order, dated 10th May 1947, the Government have asked the management of aided secondary schools to adopt for teachers in their service at least the revised scales of pay, fixed for teachers in secondary schools under local bodies. In order to enable them to meet the additional cost involved in the adoption of revised scales, the basis of the assessment of teaching grant was raised from one half to two-thirds of the approved net cost of maintenance of these schools with effect from 1st June 1947.

The Government desire to make it clear, in this connexion, that it is open to managements of aided secondary schools to adopt for their teachers the revised scales of pay fixed for teachers in Government service, if they could afford to do so, and in such cases the expenditure incurred by the management on payment of salaries in these cases will be treated as an approved item of expenditure, and will make them eligible, with effect from 1st June 1947, for teaching grant on the basis of two-thirds of the approved net cost.

The Government have decided not to insist on managements of aided secondary schools granting advance increments to the teachers, to give weightage for their service up to 31st December 1946 and refix their pay in the revised scales, but it is open to managements to give such weightage, if they can afford to do so; and in cases, where the managements have allowed advance increments in the revised scales of pay adopted by them, according to the principles laid down by Government for the grant of weightage in the scales of pay fixed for teachers in Government secondary schools or in the secondary schools under local bodies, as the case may be, the expenditure incurred by them on payment of salaries, as refixed, will be taken into account for purposes of assessment of teaching grant from the date from which the revised scales have actually been adopted and pay has been fixed in those scales, giving weightage for service. [March 2]

Coir Advisory Board

The Government have constituted a Coir Advisory Board, to advise them on the development of coir industry in the province of Madras. The Board consists of ten non-official members, besides the Director of Industries and Commerce, Madras, and the Superintendent, Government Coir School, Beypore, who will, respectively, be the Chairman and Secretary of the Board. [March 2]

Deposit of Firearms

Under the existing rules, arms, ammunition and military stores, which are deposited under section 16 (1) of the Indian Arms Act and are not returned or disposed of under section 16 (2) of the Act, should be forefeited to Government, after a period of three years from the date of their deposit. In view of the reported shortage of arms and ammunition in the market, Government have ordered that the period of deposit should be reduced from three years to one year.

Fire-arms and ammunition, which have been in deposit for one year and which have not been otherwise disposed of, would be confiscated, after due intimation to the owners, and made available to reliable licensees and disposed of in accordance with Government Order, dated 23rd December 1947. [March 5]

Advisory Committees for Aided Colleges

The Government have advised the managements of aided colleges to constitute for each college an Advisory Committee with the Principal of the college as its convenor, one representative from the staff, two representatives from parents, two representatives to be nominated by the management out of its donors and helpers and three persons to be nominated by the Government.

The duties of the Committee will be to advise the management on the following subjects :—Framing of rules for admission of students, consistent with the rules laid down by Government in this regard, opening of new groups of subjects or abolition of old ones, provision of hostel facilities, provision of extra-curricular activities in the college and other matters connected with the management and running of the institution.

Reconstitution of Transport Authorities

In view of the fact that there are two District Superintendents of Police in the districts of Madura and Vizagapatam, the Central Road Traffic Board has proposed that the constitution of the Regional Transport Authorities in such districts should be revised, so as to provide for both the District Superintendents of Police to be members of the Regional Transport Authority concerned. In compliance with this request, the Government have ordered that in districts, where there are two District Superintendents of Police, both of them should be made full voting members of the Regional Transport Authority.

[March 5]

National Flag Code

As the Government consider that it is necessary to develop uniform traditions regarding the display and use of the Indian National Flag, they have drawn up the following code for adoption in all educational institutions. The Government have directed the Director of Public Instruction to issue circular to all heads of educational institutions instructing them to adopt the code and also to have flag salutations conducted in their institutions periodically.

Traditions and Code for the use of the National Flag in Schools

1. The flag should be displayed only from sunrise to sunset. It should be displayed on national holidays specified by Government and on historic and special occasions. The flag should always be hoisted briskly and lowered slowly and ceremoniously.

2. When carried in a procession with another flag or flags, the Flag of the Indian Dominion (hereafter called the National Flag) should be either on the marching right, that is, the flag must be on the right side of the person or persons who are marching in the procession or, when then there is a line of other flags, the National Flag should be in front of the centre of that line.

3. When displayed with another flag against a wall from crossed staffs, the National Flag should be on the right, i.e., the flag must be on the right side with reference to the direction which [illegible] flag is facing and its staff should [illegible]n front of the staff of the other group.

4. When a number of flags are grouped and displayed from staffs, the National Flag should be at the centre or at the highest point of the group.

5. When flags of other States or pennants of societies are flown on the same halyard, the National Flag should always be at the peak. When flown from adjacent staffs, the National Flag should be hoisted first and lowered last. No flag or pennant should be placed above or to the right of the National Flag.

6. When the flag is displayed from a staff projecting horizontally or at an angle from the window sill, balcony or front of building, the orange side should be at the top.

7. When the flag is displayed in a manner other than by being flown from a staff, it should be displayed flat, whether indoors or out. When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the orange colour should be uppermost. When festoons, rosette or drapings of green, white and orange are desired, coloured cloth should be used, but never the flag.

8. When displayed over the middle of the street, as between buildings, the flag should be suspended vertically with the saffron to the North, in an East and West Street, or to the East in a North and South street.

9. On a speaker's platform, the flag if used flat, should be placed above and behind the speaker. It should never be used to over the speaker's desk, nor to drape over the front of the platform. If flown from a staff, it should be on the speaker's right.

10. When used in connexion with the unveiling of a statue or monument, the flag should form a distinctive feature during the ceremony, but the flag itself should never be used as a covering for the statue. Bunting may be used for this purpose.

11. When flown at half-staff, the flag is hoisted to the peak for an instant, then lowered to the half-staff position, but before lowering the flag for the day, it is raised again to the peak. By half-staff is meant hauling down the flag to one-half the distance between the top and the gay line and in absence of the gay line half of the staff.

On Memorial Days, the flag is displayed at half-staff from sunrise until noon and at full staff from noon until sunset; for the nation lives and the flag is the symbol of the living Nation; This may be adopted only if a Memorial Day is instituted.

12. Flags flown from fixed staffs are placed at half-staff to indicate mourning. When the flag is displayed on a small staff, as when carried in parade, mourning is indicated by attaching two streamers of black crepe to the spear head, allowing the streamers to fall naturally. Crepe is used on the flag staff only by order of Government.

13. When the flag is displayed inside of a place of worship, it should be from a staff placed on the congregation's right as they face the priest or leader of the congregation. The service flag, or other flag should be at the left of the congregation. If the flag is displayed in the chancel or on the platform, the National Flag should be placed on the priest's right as he faces the congregation and the other flags on his left.

14. When the flag is in such a condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, it should not be cast aside or used in any way that might be viewed as disrespectful to the National Colours, but should be destroyed as a whole, privately, perferably by burning or by some other method in harmony with the reverence and respect we owe to the emblem representing our Country.

15. *Salute to the flag.*—When the flag is passing in parade or in a review, all persons present should face the flag, stand at attention and salute. Those present in uniform should render the right-hand salute. The salute to the flag in the moving column is rendered at the moment the flag passes.

16. *When giving the pledge to the flag.*—In pledging allegiance to the National Flag, the practice to be adopted in schools is as follows :—

Standing with folded hands all repeat together the following pledge—

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the Indian Dominion and to the Indian State for which it stands—One Nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

17. *Directions for hoisting the flag.*—(1) The school will assemble in open square formation with the pupils forming the three sides and the flag staff at the centre of the fourth side. The Headmaster, the pupil leader and the person unfurling the flag (if other than the Headmaster) will stand three paces behind the flag staff.

(2) The pupils will fall in according to classes and in squads of ten (or other number according to strength). These squads will be arranged one behind the other. The pupil leader

of the class will stand to the right of the first row of his class and the form master will stand three paces behind the last row of his class, towards the middle. The classes will be arranged along the square in the order of seniority with the seniormost class at the right end.

(3) The distance between each row should be at least one space (30 inches); and the space between Form and Form should be the same.

(4) When each Form or Class is ready, the Class Leader will step forward and salute the selected school pupil leader. As soon as all the Forms are ready, the school pupil leader will step up to the Headmaster and salute him. The Headmaster will return the salute. Then, the flag will be unfurled. The school pupil leader may assist.

The school pupil leader in charge of the parade (or Assembly) will call the parade to attention, just before the unfurling, and he will call them to the salute when the Flag flies out. The parade will keep at the salute for a brief interval, and then on the command "order," the parade will come to the attention position.

(5) The Flag Salutation will be followed by the National Song (Jana Gana Mana). The parade will be kept at the attention during this part of the function.

(6) On all occasions when the pledge is taken, the pledge will follow the national song. When taking the pledge, the Assembly will stand to attention and the Headmaster will administer the pledge slowly and ceremoniously and the Assembly will repeat it after him.

Cautions

1. Do not permit disrespect to be shown to the National Flag.

2. Do not dip the National Flag to any person or anything. The regimental colour, State flag, organization flag, or institutional flag will render this honour.

3. Do not display the National Flag with the orange down.

4. Do not place any other flag or pennant above or to the right of the National Flag.

5. Do not let the flag touch the ground or the floor or trail in the water.

6. Do not place any object or emblem of any kind on or above the National Flag.

7. Do not use the flag as drapery in any form whatever.

8. Do not fasten the flag in such a manner as will permit it to be easily torn.

9. Do not drape the flag over the hood, top, sides, or back of a vehicle, or of a rail-road train or boat. When the flag is displayed on a motor car, the staff should be affixed firmly to the chassis, or clamped to the radiator cap.

10. Do not use the flag as a covering for a ceiling.

11. Do not carry the flag flat or horizontally, but always as in a parade, aloft and free.

12. Do not use the flag as a portion of a costume or of an athletic uniform. Do not embroider it upon cushions or handkerchiefs nor print it on paper napkins or boxes.

13. Do not put lettering of any kind upon the flag.

14. Do not use the flag in any form of advertising nor fasten an advertising sign to the pole from which the flag is flying.

15. Do not display, use, or store the flag in such a manner as will permit it to be easily soiled or damaged.

Note.—The instructions should be followed by Colleges also *mutatis mutandis.*

[March 5]

Amendments to the Madras General Sales Tax Rules, 1939

Government have notified the following draft amendments to the Madras General Sales Tax Rules, 1939. In rule 6 in the proviso to sub-rule (3), in clause (*a*), the words "wholly with Handspun Yarn" shall be added at the end. In sub-rule (4), for clause (*a*), the following clause shall be substituted: "(*a*) The fees for the grant or renewal of a licence shall, subject to a maximum of Rs. 1,000 be as follows:—

Rupees seventy-five for dealing in cotton and/or cotton yarn other than handspun yarn and/or handspun yarn, if the turnover is Rs. 10,000 and above, but does not exceed Rs. 20,000 per annum, and Rs. 150 if the turnover exceeds Rs. 20,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000 per annum; Rs. 25 for dealing in cloth woven on handlooms wholly or partly with mill yarn, if the turnover is Rs. 10,000 and above but does not exceed Rs. 20,000 per annum, and Rs. 50 if the turnover exceeds Rs. 20,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000 per annum; Rs. 75 for dealing in bullion and/or specie, if the turnover is Rs. 10,000 and above but does not exceed Rs. 20,000 per annum and Rs. 150, if the turnover exceeds Rs. 20,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000 per annum and Rs. 100 for every additional turnover of Rs. 1,00,000 or a fraction thereof; Rs. 25 for dealing in hides and/or skins whether as a tanner or otherwise, if the turnover is Rs. 10,000 and above but does not exceed Rs. 20,000 per annum, and Rs. 50 if the turnover exceeds Rs. 20,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000 per annum; Rs. 100 for dealing as specified in section 8, if the turnover is Rs. 10,000 and above but does not exceed Rs. 20,000 per annum, and Rs. 200 if the turnover exceeds Rs. 20,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000 per annum.

In clause (*b*), the words "or for dealing in cloth woven on handlooms wholly or partly with mill yarn" shall be omitted.

[March 6]

Zamindari Abolition

The Madras Estates (Repeal of the Permanent Settlement and Conversion into Ryotwari) Bill, 1947, now under examination by the Joint Select Committee of the Legislature, purports to abolish the zamindari system obtaining in estates in this Province. The proviso to clause 21 (2) of this Bill lays down that on payment by a ryot, whether before or after the notified date, of all arrears of rent due for the two complete faslis immediately preceding the notified date, the arrears of rent due from him in respect of any prior fasli shall be deemed to have been discharged. The Madras Estates Land (Reduction of Rent) Act, 1947, purports to reduce the rents prevailing in estates to the level of the assessments levied on lands in ryotwari areas in the neighbourhood.

It has been brought to the notice of the Government that with reference to the provisions of the Bill and the Act referred to above, the ryots in estates have been withholding payment of rent to their landholders and that they are being encouraged to believe that it will be to their advantage to stop paying rents. The landholders have in turn represented to the Government that as the ryots have abstained from paying their rents they (the landholders) are unable to pay their peshkash and cesses to the Government.

The Government have reconsid[illegible] the provisions of the proviso to c[illegible]

21 (2) of the Madras Estates (Repeal of the Permanent Settlement and Conversion into Ryotwari) Bill, 1947. They propose to modify the proviso to the effect that all arrears of rent legally due will be reduced to the ryotwari level and that they will be collected by the Government on application by the landholders and paid to the landholders after making a percentage deduction towards the cost of collection. There will thus be no question of all arrears of rent being wiped off as provided in the Bill.

The Government have also examined the question as to what steps they and the landholders may take in order to facilitate the payment of rents by ryots and the collection thereof by the landholders. They have discussed the question with certain big landholders and the representatives of the landholders' associations. A conference was held at 10 a.m. at the residence of the Hon'ble Premier with the Hon'ble Minister for Land Revenue on 28th February 1948 at which the Raja of Bobbili, the Raja of Venkatagiri, the Zamindar of Mirzapuram, the Zamindar of Seithur, representing the Southern Districts Landholders' Association and the Secretary of the Madras Landholders' Association were present. The landholders agreed to the following :—

(i) As regards cash rents, the landholders who are unable to collect rent will make an announcement that the ryots need pay only 75 per cent of the rents due for fasli 1357 and that, if the amounts so paid by the ryots for fasli 1357 are found to be in excess of the rents arrived at under the Madras Estates Land (Reduction of Rent) Act, 1947, the amounts which are found to be in excess will be adjusted towards the rents due for subsequent faslis.

(ii) As regards grain rents, (*a*) in respect of lands which are tank-fed, the ryots should pay one-third varam in cases where the existing rent is half varam and one-fourth varam in cases where the existing rent is one-third varam ;

(*b*) in cases where water is baled out or any extra effort is involved in obtaining water for irrigation of the lands, the ryots will pay one-fourth or one-sixth of the produce according as the existing varam is one-half or one-third.

These rates will apply to the crops harvested in fasli 1357 and to both first and second crops.

(*c*) The concessions relating to payment of grain rents referred to above are subject to the following conditions :—

(1) The ryot should be given a receipt specifying the amount and the fraction of the varam given.

(2) The varam paid should not be credited to the arrears of rent due for fasli prior to 1357.

(3) If the amount of varam paid by the ryots for fasli 1357 is found to be in excess of the rents arrived at under the Madras Estates Land (Reduction of Rent) Act, 1947, the amount which is found to be in excess will be adjusted towards the rents due for subsequent faslis and if the amount is found to be less than the rent arrived at under that Act, the amount of deficit will be recoverable from the ryots.

(4) If there is a total failure of crop, no varam rent need be paid.

(*d*) In no case should any cess other than cesses due to the Government should be levied by the landholder from the ryots.

The Government desire to draw the attention of the ryots to the fact that till the reduced rents under the Rent Reduction Act are actually fixed and notified, they are legally bound to pay the existing rates of rent. But in the circumstances now prevailing in many estates, they are satisfied that the terms set forth (in paragraph 5 above) are satisfactory and equitable to both parties. They would accordingly impress upon ryots that they should pay rents for fasli 1357 immediately in accordance with those terms. They also trust that these arrangements will ease the tension between landholder and tenant which now prevails in some estates.

[March 8]

Explosive Substances and Dangerous Chemicals

In view of the increased use of bombs and explosives in the recent communal disturbances in the country, the Government have imposed stringent control over the possession, sale, transport, etc., of sulphur, potassium chlorate, gunpowder and blasting explosives, and have laid down detailed instructions in this connection.

[March 10]

Tungabhadra and Ramapadasagar Projects

Government have been informed that at a public meeting held at Polavaram on February 16, 1948, a resolution requesting the Government to proceed with the construction of the Ramapadasagar Project "without any slackness or delay" was adopted. It has been reported that at the same meeting a committee was formed to "carry on the necessary agitation for the immediate construction of the Ramapadasagar Project." Some criticisms have also appeared in the press regarding the progress of work on the Tungabhadra Project. With reference to these reports and criticisms, the Government desire to place before the public the following information, which gives the actual state of affairs in respect of the execution of the two projects referred to.

Tungabhadra Project

Surveys in regard to marking out the dam site, demarcation of the water-spread area and clearing sites at the headworks have been carried out so far. The road to the dam site and other roads in the camp area have been completed. More than 75 per cent of the tramway line for transport facilities has been laid at the site. Construction of some of the buildings, embankment work and the formation of railway sidings have been taken over by the Public Works Department, as the Railway could not complete the work in time. Nearly 80 to 90 per cent of the buildings for the staff and coolies have been completed. Water-supply and drainage works are expected to be completed within a period of four months. The delay in executing these items of work has been due to the dock strike and riots in Calcutta, where the contractor firms have their headquarters. Further, there were transport difficulties also.

The work of selecting quarries and collecting materials for the project could not proceed briskly, due to the considerable delay in obtaining possession of island quarries from Hyderabad. In spite of this handicap, the Public Works Department has collected a months's requirements of stone. A good deal of difficulty is being experienced in getting the required machinery from abroad. The machinery for which the Chief Engineer placed orders personally in England and America in January 1946 has not yet been received.

Half the work connected with the excavation of the dam foundations at the flanks and all along the Madras reach of the dam has been completed. Full excavation work is expected to be completed in all respects by October

1948. The masonry work, which was programmed to begin in the third year, will now start earlier, i.e., in March 1948.

Alignment of the main canal has been done up to 176 miles, except for short reaches. The construction of quarters for the canal staff has been completed. One of the heavy cuttings is nearly complete by engaging manual labour, which has been most difficult to procure, in spite of the offer of bonus and other concessions. For intensive recruitment of labour, a Special Deputy Collector has been appointed by the Government. Notwithstanding these difficulties, excavation is in progress in a total length of 35 miles of canals with manual labour. Indents for excavating machinery have been placed with firms in America and the machinery is expected to reach Madras by about the end of 1948 and it is only in 1949 that satisfactory progress can be expected.

Nearly 35 cross masonry works and 45 bridges are nearing completion. About 25 per cent of the wells, required for the foundation of the Hagari Aqueduct, an important work on the canal, have been sunk. All masonry works on the main canal are expected to be completed before 1952.

As per the original programme of work on the project, the expenditure in the first two years was estimated at Rs. 98 lakhs. But machinery debits apart, the expenditure up to the end of March 1948 is expected to be Rs. 160 lakhs.

Ramapadasagar Project

As regards Ramapadasagar, the proposed dam has unique features and problems not hitherto solved. The investigation is, however, nearing completion and the consulting Engineers have come to the conclusion that the dam is "unquestionably feasible". A few confirmatory tests and parallel experiments remain to be done and these are expected to be completed mostly this summer. Pumping tests, which were to be carried out by Messrs. Braithwaite & Co., Calcutta, last season, had to be postponed to this year, due to difficulties in the transport of machinery on account of the dock strike in Calcutta. These tests are being taken up now.

The investigation of the left canal is complete and that of the right canal is to be taken up. With the data available the estimates for the project have been prepared. The sanctioned estimate for investigation is Rs. 38 lakhs, while the expenditure incurred so far is Rs. 25 lakhs and further debits for imported machinery are awaited. The financial aspect of the scheme has been taken up with the Government of India. The sanction of the scheme awaits confirmation of agreements with Hyderabad and conclusion of agreements with Baster and Orissa in the matter of acquisition of submerged areas in their territories.

[March 10]

Corruption among public servants

During the month of October 1947, corruption among Government servants was brought to notice against 229 persons including those against whom proceedings were pending at the end of the previous month. Of these 229, 11 were let off as the charges against them were not proved and proceedings against 203 were pending at the end of the month. Corruption was successfully detected in the case of the remaining 15 persons and they were suitably punished. Particulars relating to the persons who were punished and the nature of the punishment awarded are given below:—

Education Department—One person.

Sri B. Butchanna Sarma, Physical Training Instructor, Government Training School, Rajahmundry—Censured.

Food Department—Two persons.

(1) B. Gopala Singh, Chowkidar, Rationing Office, Narasaraopet—Removed from service.

(2) One Chowkidar in Tanjore district—Removed from service.

Police Department—Eleven persons.

(1) Ramaswamy, Police Constable, Chingleput district—Dismissed.

(2) Vedapuri, officiating Head Constable, North Arcot district—Dismissed.

(3) Radakrishnan, Officiating Head Constable, North Arcot district—Dismissed.

(4) Devadoss, officiating Head Constable, North Arcot district—Dismissed.

(5) Venkatesan, Police Constable, North Arcot district—Dismissed.

(6) Arulappan, Police Constable, North Arcot district—Dismissed.

(7) Lakshmanaperumal, Police Constable North Arcot district—Dismissed.

(8) Govindaswami, Police Constable, North Arcot district—Dismissed.

(9) Arumugam, Police Constable, North Arcot district—Dismissed.

(10) Govinda Pillai, Police Constable North Arcot district—Dismissed.

(11) Mr. M. Joseph, Sub-Inspector, Salem district—Dismissed.

Public Works Department—One person.

N. V. K. Someswara Rao, Towpath Gumastha belonging to work-charged establishment—Bezwada Circle—Dismissed.

[March 11

Cattle Feeds

With a view to establish free trade in cattle feeds, the Government have decontrolled the price and movement of all cattle feeds, except groundnut cake, and have issued the following orders in this connection:—

The Government have rescinded the Madras Foodgrains (Movement Control) Order, 1947, and the Madras Foodgrains Control Order, 1947, in so far as they relate to the products of foodgrains, which are used as cattle feeds, viz., rice bran, wheat bran, bran and husk of millets and maize. The order, prohibiting the tran sport of foodgrains or their products within the province of Madras, issued by the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, on the 28th August 1945, as subsequently amended, has also been rescinded, in so far as it relates to the products of foodgrains, which are used as cattle feeds, namely, rice bran, wheat bran, bran and husk of millets and maize.

The Government of Madras have also cancelled the Food Department notification, dated 10th December 1946, authorizing the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, in respect of the whole of the Province of Madras, and all District Collectors within their respective districts, to exercise the powers conferred on the Provincial Government by sections 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning (Temporary) Powers Act, 1946 (Madras Act XIV of 1946).

[March 11]

Refugees

Out of 1,748 refugees, who have arrived in the City from the Pakistan area up to March 7, 1948, 388 have left the camps in search of relations and appointments. Out of the remaining 1,360 refugees, 1,086 are accommodated in the Avadi camp, 76 in the Holiday Home, Saidapet, and 198 in the Lutteral Gardens, Kilpauk.

[March

Departments' Corner

Labour Department

Labour Situation

The Government have referred the dispute between the workers and the management of the American Arcot Mission Industrial Institute, Katpadi, North Arcot District to the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, for adjudication.

All the textile mills in the Coimbatore district except the Gnanambika Mills, Limited, still remain closed. The Government have issued a Press Communique informing the workers that the Award of the Industrial Tribunal for the Textile Industry may have to be allowed to lapse after the period of one year ending March 1948 if the textile workers fail to give effect to the interim recommendations of the Standardization Committee appointed with reference to that award.

On 10th February 1948 the workers of the Argus Engineering Industries, Limited, Peelamedu, Coimbatore, struck work and on this the management declared a lockout. The Labour Officer, Coimbatore, intervened and brought about a settlement of the dispute and the factory was reopened on 23rd February 1948 and the workers have resumed work.

The Government have accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Coimbatore, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the Coimbatore Cement Works, Madukkarai, Coimbatore district.

The management of Sree Suryanarayana Spinning and Weaving Mills, Pandalapaka, have reported that their mills have resumed work from 17th February 1948.

The management of Messrs. K. M. S. Sadak Thamby & Co., Ltd., Hides and Skin Merchants, Rajahmundry, have reported that their workers struck work on 18th February 1948. The report of the Labour Officer, Vizagapatam, is awaited.

The Government have referred the dispute between the workers and the management of the Deccan Sugar and Abkari Company, Limited, Samalkot, to the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication.

The management of Sri Krishna [illegible] Mills, Limited, Ellore, have [illegible]d that they have closed their mills from 23rd February 1948 for want of raw materials. The Commissioner of Labour has requested the Regional Controller of Railway Priorities, Adams Park, Madras, to expedite the supply of wagons to the management of the Mills, to avoid labour unrest.

The management of Messrs. Tiffins Barytes Asbestos & Paints, Ltd., Cuddapah, have intimated that the workers in their factory struck work on 23rd February 1948, afternoon. The Labour Officer, Anantapur, has been asked to settle the dispute. His report is awaited.

The Government have accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal in the dispute between the workers and the management of Handloom Factories in Calicut.

About 30 workers out of 54 in Kannambra Rubber Estate, Kannambra, struck work on 13th February 1948 demanding the abolition of the contract system, bonus and 3 months leave, etc. The Labour Officer, Calicut, has been asked to bring about a settlement of the dispute.

[Second fortnight of February 1948]

Food Department

Popularisation of maize.—A conference was held recently in the Office of the Commissioner of Civil Supplies in order to discuss further measures to popularise maize. Maize is still an unfamiliar food. Grain and its consumption has to be encouraged.

It was decided to concentrate efforts on districts of Ramnad, Tinnevelly and Malabar in the first instance.

Propaganda consists of (*a*) Publicity and (*b*) Lectures and demonstrations.

Regarding publicity it has been decided to make full use of the Press and the Radio. There will be daily advertisements in the leading Tamil and Malayalam Newspapers, stressing the nutritional value of maize and publishing one or more of the 21 Recipes prepared by the Publicity Organization attached to the Food Department in 1946. Similar advertisements will be inserted bi-weekly in the leading English newspapers also during the first month and thereafter on every Sunday for two months. Rural cinemas will also be made use of.

It has been decided to take over 4 propaganda vans from the Health Department and allot them to the three districts.

The propaganda vans will be utilized for intensive propaganda in the rural areas of the three districts. Lectures and demonstrations will be given as far as possible in the vicinity of Relief Shops and maize preparations will be made available to the ration card holders who make use of the Relief shops.

It was further decided to distribute the available stocks of separated milk powder for the benefit of children and expectant mothers in the three districts and to arrange for further imports after obtaining the necessary financial sanction.

The present scheme of propaganda and popularisation of maize is expected to be in operation for three months.

Public Works Department

Road Development

1. The mileage of roads in the Province under each class according to classification which existing before 1st April 1946 is as below :—

	MILES.
(i) Trunk roads ..	3,006
(ii) Important marketing roads.	6,561
(iii) Second-class roads ..	6,191
(iv) Other roads ..	20,911
Total ..	36,669

This mileage includes 21,400 miles of surface macadam roads which is nearly one-third of the total of such roads in British India and is more than that in any other Province.

2. Till before the war, only 1,400 miles of roads were maintained by the Provincial Public Works Department. These consisted of ghat roads, roads in Agency areas, canal bank road, etc. All other roads in this Presidency were maintained by local boards and municipalities.

3. With effect from 1st April 1946, the Government took over all important roads for maintenance and development and constituted the Highways Department with the Engineers then in charge of road works. The Government are now in charge of about 14,000 miles of important roads and the district boards are left with 22,000 miles of roads of local importance.

4. In collaboration with the Central Government, a programme of improvement of road communications in this Province in order to meet the needs of trade and commerce and to bring villages within easy reach of important highways, was drawn up on the basis of Mr. Vipan's scheme of road development for the province drawn up in 1935 and subsequent developments like the approved programme of village communications for individual districts. The comprehensive programme was estimated to cost about Rs. 75 crores, to be spread over 15 years divided into 4 phases, the first of two years, the second of three years, and the last two of five years each. The more urgent works were included in the first five-year programme which was estimated to cost Rs. 27·77 crores.

5. In the past the road system of this Province developed without a co-ordinated plan and the post-war road plan aims at rectifying this defect. In the scheme of Post-war Road Development, roads have been divided into four classes, namely (1) National Highways, (2) Provincial Highways, (3) District Roads, major and other and (4) village roads. National Highways consist of strategic roads and the main highways running through the length and breadth of India connecting ports, foreign Highways, capitals of Provinces and States. Provincial Highways are all other main, trunk or arterial roads of the Province. District roads are roads traversing each district serving areas of production and market and connecting these with each other or with Highways and railways. Village roads are roads giving access for villages to the nearest district road, highway, railway, or canal depot and connecting neighbouring villages. National Highways form the frame work on which the entire road communication system of the country is to be based. Provincial Highways and the district roads form the subsidiary frames in respect of the road systems of the Province and the District respectively. In planning the village roads, the target aimed at was to keep every village within two miles of a district road or a Highway in thickly populated areas and within five miles in thinly populated areas. Also every village with a population of over 500 was to be provided with an access road.

6. The project estimates already drawn up anticipate the needs of the Province for the next 20 years and contemplate the upgrading and improvement of existing roads, the construction of about 20,000 miles of new roads and also the construction of about 22 major bridges each costing over 4 lakhs, 250 bridges costing 1 to 4 lakhs each and 750 bridges costing over 10,000 each besides a number of small culverts and minor bridges at a total cost of about Rs. 8 crores in addition to cement concreting of about 2,150 miles of roads.

7. *National Highways.*—The Government of India have proposed to assume responsibility for the maintenance and development of National Highways (the total mileage of which in this Province is 2,039) subject to the ratification of the scheme. The total cost of the works on National Highways in the Province was expected to come to about 77·1 crores of which 6·7 crores was to be incurred during the first five years. The Government of India have, however, stated that the allotment for expenditure on original works on National Highways in this Province for the first five years from 1st April 1947 will be about Rs. 2·5 crores. The Chief Engineer (Highways) has accordingly submitted a revised five-year programme of works for National Highways costing Rs. 2·5 crores of which 1·5 crores will be for bridges and Rs. 1 crore for road works including Land Acquisition and it has been submitted to the Government of India for their approval.

8. *Roads other than National Highways.*—The original 15-year programme for works on these roads was estimated to cost Rs. 67·52 crores of which 21·06 crores was to be incurred in the first five years. With special reference to considerations of financial economy, the practicability of executing such a huge road programme with the existing resources in men, money and materials was re-examined. In November 1946 the Government decided that the 15-year programme should be reduced to one of 30 crores and the five-year programme to one of Rs. 9·55 crores (including Rs. 1·75 crores for special tools and plant and Rs. 0·80 crore for increased expenditure on maintenance of roads newly formed or improved during the five years).

9. In the revised programme 60 per cent of the total amount will be allotted to Provincial Highways and Major District Roads which are mostly under the control of Government and 40 per cent roads of local importance consisting of other District roads and Village roads. The question of increasing the allotment for the programme is also being reconsidered.

Pending finalisation of the revised five-year programme which is awaited from the Chief Engineer the more important works are being executed.

Home Department

Motor Vehicles—Administration Report for 1946-47

Goods vehicles numbered 3,311 in 1945–46 and 6,341 in 1946–47. The corresponding figures for buses were 3,662 and 5,057, for motor cars 9,796 and 15,972, for taxis 371 and 522, for motor cycles 1,513 and 2,823, for driving licences 41,374 and 57,911, for public service vehicle drivers' licences 10,514 and 15,559 for conductor's certificates 13,828 and 17,087, for convictions under the Motor Vehicles Act 8,454 and 22,371 and for convictions for traffic offences 103,571 and 70,125.

2. The increase in the number of goods vehicles, which was nearly cent per cent, was due to the release of a large number of surplus army vehicles through the Disposals Organization of the Government of India and also to the arrival of new vehicles. Notwithstanding this increase, there was still a large demand for additional vehicles, owing to the abnormal expansion of goods traffic. The freight charges for goods transport by road, however, showed an appreciable decline. The question of prescribing maximum rates for transport of goods by road was deferred till conditions became more normal.

3. The increase in the number of buses was mainly due to the release of a large number of controlled and commercially imported chassis and surplus army vehicles. Even with this increase, the full demand could not be met and transport facilities available to the public were found to be inadequate. During the year, town bus services were introduced in some important towns like Vellore, Cocanada, Conjeeveram, Salem, etc. The Government also took up actively the question of nationalization of passenger transport services and to begin with a few State buses were put on the road towards the close of the year.

4. The Civil Motor Cars Control Order, 1945, was superseded by the Madras Civil Motor Cars Control Order, 1947, on 4th March 1947. Under the new order ten per cent of the total number of cars imported by dealers were reserved and allotted to essenti[al] users by the Provincial Motor Tr[ans]port Controller and the reminder

allowed to be sold in the open market by dealers themselves. Control over the prices of new cars was continued.

Education Department

In connection with the recent revision of salaries of teachers, the Government have fixed the pay of higher elementary and secondary grade teachers in aided elementary schools at Rs. 25—½—30 and Rs. 35—1—45 respectively. They have also ordered that in view of the increased scales of grant the managements should allow a pay of Rs. 30 to a higher elementary grade trained teacher and Rs. 40 to a secondary grade trained teacher, the managements supplementing the Government grants to the extent necessary from their own resources.

The pay fixed for a lower elementary grade trained teacher was Rs. 18 per month. It was also ordered that this category of teachers should be paid by managements a pay of Rs. 20 a month, the management supplementing the grant from their resources. On a representation since received regarding the inability of managements to supplement the Government grants from their resources the Government ordered last month that this provision need be enforced only in cases where the managements were able to supplement the Government grants from their own resources and that in other cases necessary exemption might be given .

2. In June 1947, the Government issued orders reserving a certain percentage of seats in schools and colleges for Harijan candidates. Recently, the Government issued orders making a similar provision for reservation for Harijans in Government hostels. They directed that ten per cent of seats in all Government hostels attached to secondary and training schools and Government Arts and Training and Professional Colleges should be reserved for Harijans. If Harijan candidates were not forthcoming in sufficient numbers to fill the seats within 15 days from the re-opening of the hostels, candidates of other communities might be admitted against them. If the number of Harijan applicants exceeded the number of seats reserved, as many of those applicants as possible should be admitted.

3. The Government have under consideration a scheme for the medical inspection of pupils in secondary schools and Government colleges. With a view to work out the details relating to the scheme, they sanctioned the employment of an Additional Deputy Director of Public Instruction in the Office of the Director of Public Instruction on a scale of Rs. 600—1,000. The Director was asked to send to Government, in consultation with the Surgeon-General and the Director of Public Health, a draft of the *ad hoc* rules to be framed for the post and also proposals for the appointment of a suitable person of the status of Assistant Director of Public Health to the post.

4. At present, no proportion is fixed for direct recruitment and for promotion to posts of School Assistants in the Madras Educational Subordinate Service. Last month, the Service Rules were amended so as to provide 50 per cent of the substantive vacancies of School Assistants, II Grade, arising on or after 1st April 1947 to be filled or reserved to be filled also by direct recruitment.

5. The Government have examined the question of revising the scales of pay and ameliorating the conditions of service of contingent workers in the Government Medical institutions including those in the Hospital of Indian Medicine and have directed that

(*a*) such of those as would be required permanently for the normal work of the department be made permanent and converted into regular establishment, to be absorbed into subordinate or inferior service, as the case may be, and

(*b*) that all other posts be retained in the contingent establishment on suitable scales if they are already on scales of pay and at market rates if not.

On a memorandum submitted by the Muslim Community on the subject of Muslim Education in the Province, the Madras Government have decided in the following manner :—

(1) While Government are against the starting and maintenance of separate schools as a policy the present separate schools may be continued for the next five years but without any commitment to continue them after the period.

(2) In secondary schools and in standards VI, VII and VIII of Higher Elementary schools, the regional language will be the medium of instruction.

(3) In Elementary Schools where the regional language is not being taught now, the study of the regional language will be introduced in standard III or earlier.

(4) That the present arrangement for the provision of religious instruction for Muslims in existing Muslim schools may be continued under a syllabus to be approved by Government.

(5) That the Government, if they think fit, may close such of those schools which are working uneconomically or for any other reasons.

In June 1947, the Government issued orders reserving 10 per cent of seats in schools and colleges for Harijan candidates with effect from the school or academic year 1947-48. In February 1948, a further concession was granted to the Harijan candidates by reserving a similar percentage (10 per cent) of seats in Government hostels with effect from the school or academic year 1948-49.

The Government have appointed Mr. K. M. Sevennah, B.E., as Technical Education Officer for the work connected with the introduction of bifurcated courses of studies in secondary schools.

Government have ordered that 40 per cent of the substantive vacancies that have arisen in the category of Junior Deputy Inspectors since 1st April 1947 should be filled or reserved to be filled by direct recruitment of teachers employed in schools under the control of local bodies or aided agencies who possess a completed T.T.C. of the Secondary Grade with 10 years' service as a teacher and are below the age of 35 years.

The Government in order to cater to the needs of school children and literate adults have sanctioned the opening of central libraries (with branch libraries in the 25 firkas selected for intensive rural reconstruction work.

Under this scheme, the librarians, central library will stock the books required for circulation to branch libraries for the use of school-going children and literate adults. He will distribute them to the headmaster of the elementary school or the village headman in charge of the branch library periodically every week and get them back after circulation to the school-going children and literate adults.

The central libraries will be under the control of the Firka Development department.

The Government have decided to prepare, print and publish text-books

for schools and colleges in the Province so that the best material can be given at cheap cost and profit. The preparation of text-books for Basic Education in Tamil and Telugu will first be taken up. The Government have sanctioned for this purpose the creation of a temporary post of Special Officer in the Madras Educational Service in the office of the Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

Revenue Department

Resettlement Activities

During the month of January 1948, the Employment Service in the Indian Dominion has again, for the fourth time in succession set up a new record of pleadings. Sixteen thousand five hundred and seventy-one applicants, of whom 7,570 were ex-servicemen, were placed in employment by the 54 Exchanges in the Indian Dominion. Up to the end of January, 14,850 displaced persons from West Pakistan were placed in employment. These figures show that the Employment Exchanges under the Ministry of Labour, Government of India, are steadily gaining in popularity among employers.

The total number of persons placed in employment, since the inception of the Resettlement and Employment Organization up to the end of January 1948, was 293,933, of whom 184,787 were ex-servicemen.

During the same month, 3,027 ex-service personnel were selected and posted to 265 training centres bringing the total number selected and posted up to the end of that month to 45,735 in the Dominion of India. Postings during the above month include 2,931 ex-servicemen posted to vocational and technical training centres and 96 displaced persons posted to training centres for war-disabled. The total number of persons under training, at the end of the month, was 10,767, including 803 displaced persons.

Miscellaneous

Concessions to War Service Candidates

Though I.N.A. personnel were treated for purposes of appointment to the public services, in exactly the same way as ex-service men, they were not eligible for appointment to vacancies in the Police Services. This ban has been removed except in the case of those who are guilty of acts of brutality. The Government have also decided that of the war reserved vacancies in all services (Provincial and Subordinate) for which war service candidates have not been selected so far, a maximum of 10 per cent should be allotted to I.N.A. men who have already applied for such vacancies. In the case of posts in the Special Police Units, however, not more than 5 per cent will be so allotted.

2. War service candidates competing for vacancies (non-reserved) arising on or after 1st April 1947 are permitted to deduct the period of their war service in computing the age for appointment. It has now been decided that this concession should also be extended to de-reserved vacancies (i.e., 33¾ per cent of those originally reserved) which are thrown open to the public.

Ex-Servicemen's Co-operative Societies

The administration, supervision and control of the Provincial Co-operative Resettlement Schemes and other items of work relating to the resettlement and employment of ex-services personnel have been transferred to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies with effect from 1st March 1948.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, GUINDY,
3rd March 1948.

AN APPEAL

The people of this Presidency are no doubt aware of the appeal made by the Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, for contribution to the "Prime Minister's National Relief Fund" for the relief and rehabilitation of refugees. A committee of officials and non-officials consisting of the Hon'ble the Premier, the Mayor and Sheriff of Madras, and the heads of the Naval, Military and Air Force establishments in this Province has been formed in Madras for the purpose of collecting for this object. To concert measures for the collection of funds, it is proposed to organize dance and musical performances, charity shows, etc. We all know the hardships and miseries which these refugees are undergoing. It is unnecessary for me to say that it is the duty of everyone of us to contribute as liberally as possible to this most worthy cause. Madras has always responded generously to such deserving causes and I have no doubt that she will continue to do so on this occasion also, in connection with the present appeal.

ARCHIBALD NYE,
Governor of Madras.

Light on Current Subjects

Public Health Measures in the Madras Presidency

Sri A. B. SHETTY'S (*Broadcast*)

NOTE.—*Next to the appalling poverty of this country, public health is the most urgent problem. Birth rate and death rate are high. Infant mortality is the highest in the world. But less than six million people die every year from preventable diseases. Improvement in the field of public health cannot be achieved by Government efforts alone. The public also have a responsiblity to discharge and unless this responsibility is discharged any amount of efforts on the part of the Government cannot bear adequate fruit. However the Government are devoting special attention to the promotion of Public Health measures in this Province. Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty, has referred to a few of these measures in the course of a recent broadcast on the subject. He said :*

"The improvement of public health is of paramount importance in any plan for the future development of the country. The ill-health and premature death so common among our people offers a striking contrast to the high standards of health and length of life enjoyed by the people in many of the western countries. The rate of mortality here is double that of most other civilized countries; The average expectation of life is more than 60 years in several of the western countries while here it is only about 27. This shortened span of life is spent mostly in sickness, suffering and sorrow. The largest number of deaths take place among infants and children. Half the number of children die before the age of 10. Yet the birth-rate is so high that our population continues to grow at a disquieting rate and this is in marked contrast with the decline in the growth of population in the West. This high birth-rate and the high death-rate which goes along with it means an appalling waste of human life and effort. The rapid increase in our population is widening the gap between the available quantity of food and the number of people to be fed. The low standard of health in our country may be traced mainly to unhealthy conditions of living, improper nutrition, inadequacy of health services and lack of education. The root cause is poverty and the low standard of life prevailing among the vast masses of our people.

The Position in Rural Areas

In this Province we have 35,430 villages where 84 per cent of our people live. The great majority of the rural houses are unfit for human habitation. There is practically no conservancy or sanitary service in the villages. The soil is polluted by indiscriminate defecation and often water also is contaminated on account of people using the bank of a stream or the margin of a tank as a public latrine. In most places the drinking water available is either inadequate or unsafe for use. The great mass of the village population lead half-starved lives. Many unhealthy habits and practices prevail among the people due to want of health education. The environmental conditions are hardly better in urban areas. Our towns have grown in a haphazard way without any planning. The housing conditions are most unsatisfactory. Slums and over-crowding make the situation worse, particularly in industrial areas. Thousands live on pavements of roads. The collection and disposal of refuse and excreta is not done properly. The number of private and public latrines is far below the requirements. Protected water-supply is available only in 46 of our municipalities. In 40 out of these 46 towns the supply is either inadequate or it does not cover the whole area. Drainage facilities have been provided so far only in 7 cities in this province but they are all partial schemes. Dusty roads are a source of great nuisance and danger to health in our towns. Files and mosquitoes are found everywhere carrying infection. The major cause for the poor physical development and chronic ill-health of our people is undoubtedly faulty nourishment. Resistance power is weakened by lack of proper nutrition and they easily fall a prey to infectious diseases. If they don't die a premature death, they lead an enfeebled existence and their productive capacity suffers a great deal.

Past Policy

In the health programme so far followed in this country we have given precedence to the establishment of hospitals and the production of doctors. More emphasis has been laid on the cure and the alleviation of disease rather than on the prevention of illness and the improvement of health. As observed by a Committee of the British Medical Association, modern medical practice tends to stress more and more the importance of the environment and the methods of preventing disease and maintaining health. Good health is not entirely, or even mainly, a question of medical services. It does not depend so much upon hospitals or doctors or bottles of medicine as upon a suitable environment, adequate nutrition and the adoption of the rules of healthy living. Great results have been achieved in Great Britain by the improvements made there in the field of sanitation, hygiene, water-supplies and housing. The great epidemic diseases have been practically conquered. Death-rates have been considerably reduced and the average length of life has gone up by many years. Factory legislation has led to better conditions of work. The newer knowledge of nutrition has enabled them to raise the standard of health in the nation.

Preventive side Stressed

While we need not relax our efforts to provide proper medical aid, particularly to the rural population, the time has come to give increased attention to preventive measures. The lay-out of our towns, the construction of hygienic dwellings, the production and supply of more and better food, the provision of protected water-supply and drainage and such other health creating services are of paramount imporatnce for raising the standard of health and fitness in our people. The extent of sickness prevalent in the country is so large that we cannot hope to provide beds for more than a fraction of the people requiring hospital treatment even if we are able to multiply several times the number of our hospitals and dispensaries. The reduction in the demand for curative treatment can be secured only through successful preventive work. With the limited staff and funds that are now available to us we can achieve more effective and lasting

results by creating conditions of healthful living instead of concentrating too largely on the expansion of medical relief work.

Government Measures Recounted

There is no doubt that increase of food production *is the most important* single measure required for the maintenance of life and health. The "Grow More Food" campaign started during war time is, therefore, being steadily pursued and large funds are being allotted for providing major and minor irrigation works and for *supplying more* manure and better seeds to the ryots. The area under all food crops has *increased* from 26·43 to 27·63 million acres. This means an increase of 1·20 million acres. Diet surveys and nutrition research work are being carried on. A housing scheme *has been* launched and Co-operative House Building Societies are being organisde *for this* purpose. The amendment of the Town Planning Act is under the active consideration of a Committee with a view to make it more effective in determining the *physical* conditions under which people have to live and in controlling the future development of our towns. The eradication of slums, the abatement of overcrowding and the provision of new decent houses at low rents must form a part of our national *health policy*. The most outstanding problem connected with the improvement of public health is the provision of adequate and safe water-supply and proper drainage system for our towns and villages. The Committee constituted in last June to consider the question of *expediting* the investigation, design and execution of urban and rural water-supply and *drainage* schemes have submitted their report to the Government. They want that the state must assume the entire responsibility for the provision of water-supply and drainage all over the Province and that a ten-year plan for water-supply and fifteen-year plan for drainage should be programmed and followed and that a public health engineering department should be organized for the purpose. The report has been made available to the public and suggestions have been invited from persons interested in the matter by *the* end *of* this month. Government will soon have to consider the far reaching recommendations made by the Committee and take necessary steps in the matter. G[illegible]vernment have already constituted [illegible] rural water-supply fund of rupe[illegible] one crore and they propose [illegible] a contribution of 15 la[illegible] f[illegible] r for this [illegible] tri-tion and provision of suitable housing and good drinking water will do more than anything else to prevent ill-health and to reduce the *need for costly, and* often unsatisfactory, curative services. These will have, therefore, to be given high priority in our health programme. A conference of eminent medical and public health experts both official and non-official was convened in June 1947. *They* discussed a *wide* range of subjects relating to medical education, medical relief and public health work. Two sub-committees which were formed at the conference for a detailed study of these problems have made important recommendations which will soon be considered by the Government. Government have in the interest of medical education given their approval to all the expansion schemes relating to the Stanley and the Andhra Medical Colleges and the attached hospitals. When these building schemes are completed each of these colleges will be able to take in 100 medical students every year. A College of Indian Medicine has been started this year with 50 students. It has been proposed that the School of Indian Medicine also should continue to be run alongside the College. Steps are being taken to provide the additional buildings, staff and equipment required for the expansion of this teaching institution and to start a research department also.

The needs of rural India have long been neglected. The establishment of combined medical and health centres *in villages linked with taluk and dis*trict hospitals has been proposed with a view to bring remedial and preventive services within the reach of the people in rural areas. Government have sanctioned the opening of these primary centres at the rate of 30 every year.

The post-war schemes of health development are awaiting to be implemented. There is a twenty-year plan for the reconstruction and improvement of District and Taluk Headquarters Hospitals and for adopting *further measures for combating* tuberculosis, leprosy, malaria, etc. The main difficulty in carrying out our post-war plans which have been suitably modified in the light of proposals of the Bhore Committee is lack of finance. Government will have to *augment their income and spend* a larger percentage of their revenues on health measures. As pointed out by the Bhore Committee, "A nation's health is the most potent single factor in determining the character and extent of its development and progress and any *expenditure of money and* effort on improving the national health is a gilt-edged investment yielding immediate and steady returns in increased productive capacity."

By courtesy A.I.R., Madras.

Problems of Sugar Industry

Speaking on the problems facing *the sugar industry, Sir Datar Singh in* his opening speech at the Annual Meeting of the Indian Sugarcane Committee stated that as a result of the partition it was necessary to lay down fresh targets of sugarcane and sugar production in the Dominion *of India. Based on the figures of* 1945–46, 825,921 tons or 87·42 per cent of sugar were produced in the territory, now under the Dominion of of India, 95,600 tons of sugar were produced in the Indian States acceding to the former, as against 23,279 tons *in Pakistan. This reduction is not* significant, but if the Pakistan Government ceases to consume Indian sugar and begins to import foreign sugar, some other venues of disposal of our own surplus will ultimately have to be found.

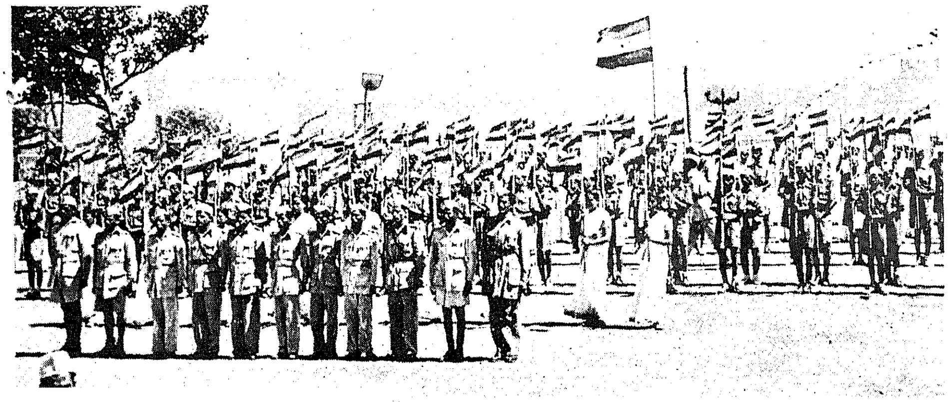
The problems facing the sugar industry are immense and are to be reconsidered in [illegible] light of the present *day cir[illegible]stances*, as the existing plans [illegible] production and development [illegible] much [illegible] partition. We are faced with a continuous spell of bad seasons, lack of adequate supplies of cane and lack of wagons and other transport facilities. To place the sugar industry on a sound footing, early steps have to be taken to improve our lot. The five-year schemes of sugarcane development for *initiation in the main sugarcane* tracts and financed from the special grant of Rs. 75 lakhs have been approved. These will be brought into effect as soon as the Government's formal sanction is received.

Towards more Production

At the recommendation of the Tariff Board, the Government of India have agreed to increase its annual contribution to the Committee. We expect a grant of about Rs. 50 lakhs in place of the expected Rs. 11·75 or 12·50 lakhs and will thus be in a position to take up [illegible] schemes of research and new projects of translating the results of research into actual practice in agricultural, technologi[illegible] economical and other aspects [illegible] sugarcane development. Every

India's Prime Minister at Vizagapatam

8 APR 1949
MADRAS



Congress volunteers awaiting the arrival of the Prime Minister.

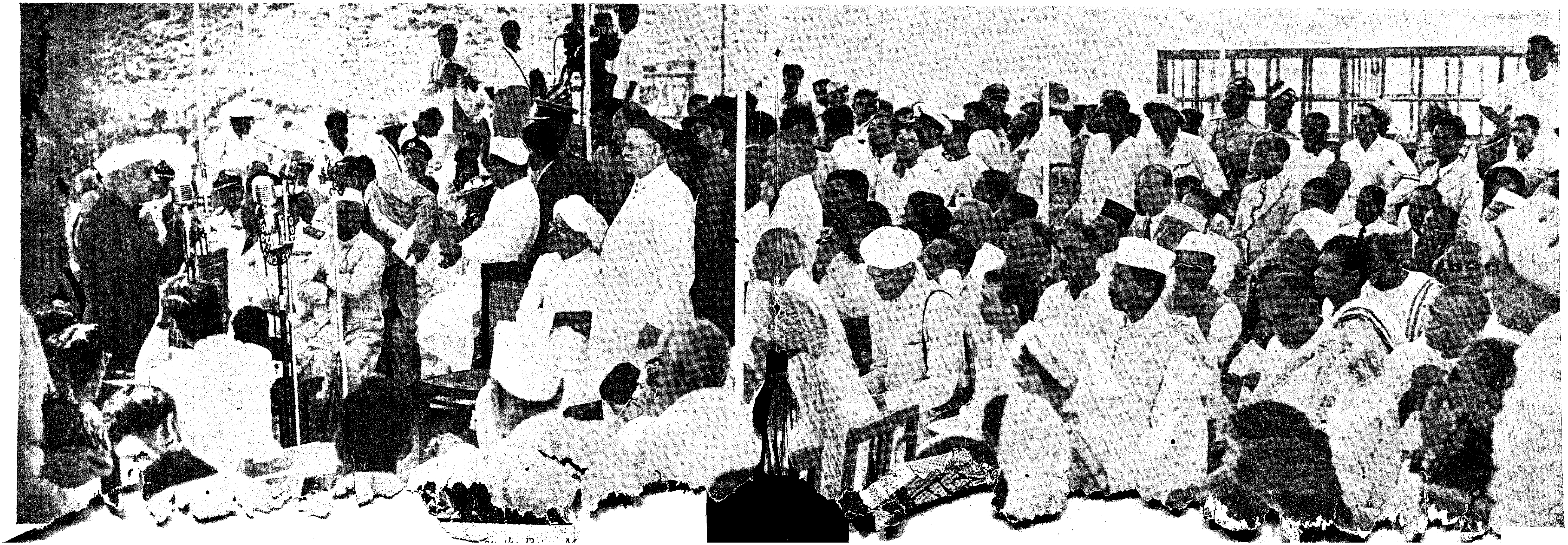
A guard of honour was presented to India's Prime Minister by Congress lady volunteers.

The Prime Minister is being escorted

All Vizagapatam turned up to accord a rousing welcome to India's Prime Minister

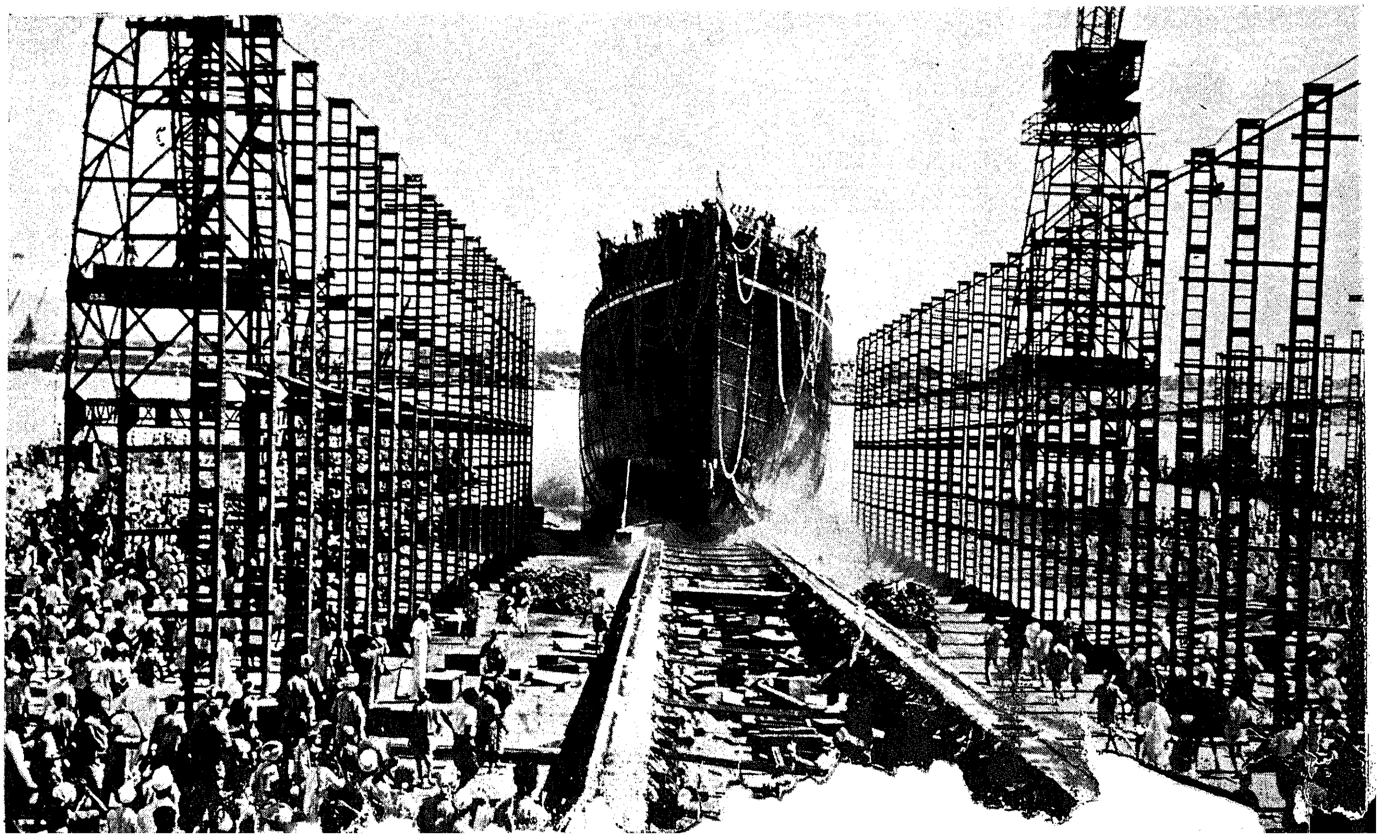
The Prime Minister is seen returning the greetings of the people.

The Prime Minister arrives at the Scindia shipyard.



"Jala Usha" moves forward

The Religious part of the Ceremony before the launching



will be needed to increase sugar production by the increase of cane acreage, by improving the quality and quantity of cane produced, by evolving disease-resistant and high yielding varieties of cane with different periods of maturity and harvesting, and to increase the normal length of the crushing season to 110—130 days, by providing better supplies of cane to the factories, by providing remunerative cane prices to the growers, by providing adequate quantities of manures and fertilizers, as well as, of irrigation water.

The production of the maximum quantum of quality cane, with a high sucrose content, appears to be the main factor for maximising the production of sugar and lowering its cost of production. The cost of the raw material itself forms more than 60 per cent of the total cost of manufacture of sugar and hence the future advancement of the industry and economy in the cost of production of sugar must necessarily depend upon the proper development of the cane itself. Planning and research, both from the agronomic as well as the breeding points of view, appear to be essential factors for securing larger yields of cane per acre. The importance of resistance to and control of serious diseases and pests cannot be over-emphasized. The manufacturing efficiency of modern sugar factories in India is improving steadily and with the renovation of old and installation of new machinery as well as the utilization of more economic units, it is hoped that efficiency will increase still further.

The utilization of the bi-products such as molasses, bagasse, press-mud and the installation of auxiliary industries for the production of power alcohol, rectified spirits, sugarcandy, confectionery, food-yeasts are matters which also deserve greater attention than hitherto.

During the past two or three years, the production of factory sugar is on the decline, due to the reduction in sugar acreage, brought about by the diversion of some land from cane cultivation for the Grow More Food Campaign, better prices of other commodities and certain other difficulties, whereby the full crush of the season has not been possible. Steps to increase sugar production are, therefore, urgently needed.

During the year, the Bhadruk Military Grass Farm consisting of about [illegible] of land and some buildings, [illegible] taken over from the Ministry of Defence for establishing the Institute of Sugar Technology and Sugarcane Research at Lucknow. The Farm has been handed over temporarily to the Government of United Provinces who were anxious to utilise this place for their Grow More Food Campaign and Dairy Development Scheme until such time as the Committee required this Farm for building and/or farming purposes. If the Government of India accept the recommendations made in the last meeting, we may take over the complete charge of the Sugarcane Breeding Station at Coimbatore and its Sub-Stations. If this is accomplished, all aspects of sugarcane breeding, sugarcane agronomy and sugar technology could be thoroughly investigated under one Central organization, the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee.

A sum of Rs. 50 lakhs for the establishment of the new Institute has been earmarked by the Government of India from the Temporary Sugar Excise Fund, but this will have to be supplemented further from the annual savings in our budget. A sum of about Rs. 11 lakhs will be required for payment to the Defence Ministry for the land, fencing and buildings alone.

The Future Plan

Concluding, the Chairman stated that in order to utilize the expected balance in the best interests of the industry, it had to be considered whether other schemes should be invited for initiating economic research, inquiries and recommendations relating to banking and transport facilities and transport routes, for marketing facilities, improvement of crop forecasting and statistics, publication of a journal and the initiation of other research or development schemes.

The Social Side of Prohibition

Note:— *The social side of prohibition cannot be overstressed. The Provincial Government have organized on an elaborate scale social amenities in prohibition district. There are among other things rural Recreation Officers in these areas charged with the responsibility of promoting recreation and rural amenities. The Recreation Officers are given special training. Recently in a gathering of the trainees at the Y.M.C.A. College of Physical Education Mr. V. N. Kudva dealt with among other things the social side of prohibition. In the course of his speech he said :*

Pandit Jawharalal Nehru has repeatedly told us that the true wealth of a nation depends on its manhood and womanhood even more than its material resources. Ours is one of the poorest countries in the world and the standard of living of our masses is miserably low. Many things have contributed to reducing our splendid manhood to its present low state. It is universally recognized that the drink habit is widespread among them, and that those who drink spend such a large part of their wages on drink that they have less than the absolute minimum necessary for a healthy physical existence.

Background of Prohibition

If we are to take our place which is rightly ours in the family of nations we have to do everything that we can to raise the economic, social and moral level of the masses. This can be done not by increasing their earning capacity—a matter which is also seriously engaging the attention of the state—but also by eliminating all wasteful expenditure, [illegible] their earnings are utilized to the best advantage to promote their well-being. It is considered that no single measure of reform can help the masses and raise their economic and social level to the same extent as total prohibition can. Of all Provinces, the Madras Government have taken the lead in the matter of giving effect to this social reform of far-reaching importance.

Twofold Programme

The programme is two-fold ; on the preventive side, a large staff has been entrusted with the task of enforcing and stopping illicit liquor traffic with a view to remove temptation from the weak. On the positive or ameliorative side, schemes are organized on a co-operative basis not only for the purpose of providing employment for those who find it difficult to adjust themselves to new environments but also to show the people at large the ways and means by which they can improve their resources, and some measures have also been undertaken to encourage thrift and savings out of the money which w[illegible] till only too [illegible]

I now come to the part of the ameliorative programme.

As we all know, the life of an ordinary villager is often dull and dreary. With the change in outlook with the impact of modern civilization, there has been of late a marked tendency for the best sons of the villages to feel their environments in the village uncongenial; and with the gradual impoverishment of the countryside, they find little scope for their activities in the villages and migrate to towns in search of employment. The traditional games, folk-dances and entertainments which occupied the attention of the villagers and enlivened their spare hours have considerably suffered for want of encouragement, and many of them have resorted to drink to escape the tedium of their life and the monotony of their existence. You are expected to provide ample amusements by organizing effectively in your taluks rural and popular games, folk-dances, Bhajanas, Katha Prasangams, Kalakshepams, Harikathas and similar amusements according to definite plan. Modern games and tournaments, when funds are forthcoming, will no doubt attract large gatherings on occasions, but it must be remembered that the equipment for them may very often be beyond their resources, and you will do well to encourage indigenous and non-equipment games like Chedugudu, Pillaiyar Panthu and Kilithattu and try to build up rural recreation clubs wherever possible. If you successfully organize this programme, you will not only make them forget their craving for drink and promote their health but also help to develop such traits as team spirit, communal harmony, common endeavour, etc., which are so essential for the advancement of the country. Thanks to the teachings of the various religions which have taken root in this country, the prevailing sentiment has always been against the use of alcohol and drugs. Moral persuasion has been known to play an important part in the success of temperance movements all over the world, and you are expected to make the fullest use of your opportunities for the advancement of the cause of Prohibition.

Rural Uplift Work

You will also see that the programme is so designed that it is possible to combine amusement not only with propaganda but also instruction. You have already visited co-operative societies and seen for yourselves what is being done through the Co-operative agency for economic uplift. It is realized that you may not be able to organize co-operative institutions yourselves or render technical assistance in regard to the Agricultural, Veterinary or other matters. In a country like ours, where illiteracy is widespread, some dissemination of your knowledge of rural subjects and problems is essential if the villagers are to take full advantage of the beneficent activities of these departments. It is, therefore, intended that you should make the best use of the knowledge gained by you by transmitting it to the villagers during the entertainments and further the movement for rural uplift for the purpose of making villages and towns healthier, happier and more prosperous. It is possible that in some areas your efforts may be crowned with success and the villagers may be enthusiastic to come forward with adequate funds to be utilized for their own benefit. It is up to you to direct their energy by forming organizations which may develop, in course of time, into organizations which not only promote games, playgrounds, dramas and other recreations but also activities like the cleaning of villages, the laying of village roads, cleaning and repairs to wells, introduction of better methods of agriculture and establishment of cottage industries on co-operative basis, which are an integral part of our national reconstruction programme.

Special Articles

Mahatma Gandhi

His outstanding contribution

By HON'BLE MR. DANIEL THOMAS

Mother India mourns the loss of her greatest and her best beloved son. The world bemoans the loss of an incomparable leader who had captured the imagination of the nations by the simplicity of his life and by the profundity of his teaching. In the short span of 25 years, out of 400 millions of weak and desperate individuals, he created a nation, conscious of its manhood and with a determination to achieve, by discipline and sacrifice, its inherent and inalienable right of freedom. By his doctrine of Ahimsa, of overcoming hate by love, of conquering oppression by suffering, he forged his weapon of Satyagraha, the greatest spiritual force of the twentieth century. And he set the seal and superscription of his own sacrificial love and discipline on countless numbers of his fellow-countrymen. He created, thereby, an army of men and women, prepared joyfully to give their utmost and their highest for this battle of the nation's freedom, an army of unconquerables against whose spiritual armoury the carnal forces of imperialism were impotent and futile. And so, to the wonder and amazement of a witnessing world, he achieved India's Freedom, the most momentous event in the political annals of the human race. It was the devout prayer of the people of India that this consummation of Freedom should be attained in the lifetime of Gandhiji. God granted us this prayer and there was universal rejoicing in the land, such rejoicing as had never before been witnessed in all her long history. But the light of freedom was overcast with the dark clouds of fratricidal conflicts of Hindu and Musalman in Bengal and in the Punjab. Gandhiji was 78, a long life of sufferings and fastings and imprisonments. The call came to Mahatmaji. Who else can still these troubled waters of communal madness and restore peace and harmony? Gandhiji's pilgrimage in Noakhali and his advent to Calcutta constitute the greatest and most moving epic of modern times. But his mission was not yet fulfilled. There was need for his presence in Delhi and to Delhi he went—Delhi, the seat of the pomp and glory of the Moghuls and the capital of Free India—a fitting scene for the termination of his earthly labours.

The Spirit of Gandhiji—Our Guide

Christ preached his evangel of love to God and love of man, performed [illegible] miracles of healing of body [illegible] and finally sacrificed His life [illegible]

Cross for the redemption of the world. During the last 1900 years, of the countless millions of human beings that lived and loved and died on this earth of ours, incomparably, Gandhiji was nearest to Christ in the depth and catholicity of his love and compassion and in the extent and intensity of his redemptive suffering. Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue and if there be any praise, all these things were gathered up and illustrated in the life and teaching of Mahatma Gandhi. And now, what remains ? The assassin's bullet has set the crown of martyrdom as the fulfilment and final glory of Mahatmaji's life. Though much is taken away, much remains. His ashes are to be scattered in the waters of our Motherland, but his spirit is immortal and is enshrined in the hearts of countless millions of people. And his spirit will lead us and guide us to achieve his uncompleted task of establishing peace and goodwill between the diverse classes and communities in our country and among the peoples and nations of the world.

To have seen Gandhiji's radiant face, to have breathed the sunshine of his ennobling presence, to tread the soil hallowed by his feet, to cherish the memory and example of his life, to purify and discipline ourselves both as individuals and as communities in order to follow in his footsteps and to serve and forward the causes dear to his heart, these things abide with us, part of our life's unalterable good.

EVERYTHING LIFELESS WITHOUT TRUTH

"TRUTH is like a vast tree which yields more and more fruit, the more you nurture it. The deeper the search in the mine of truth the richer the discovery of the gems buried there, in the shape of openings for an ever greater variety of service."

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"IN the march towards Truth, anger, selfishness, hatred, etc., naturally give way, for otherwise Truth would be impossible to attain."

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"EVERYTHING appears to me to be lifeless without Truth. I am convinced that untruth will never benefit the country, and even if untruth seems to bring immediate benefit, I firmly believe that Truth ought never to be abandoned."

* * * * *

"I AM but a seeker after Truth. I claim to have found the way to it. I claim to be making a ceaseless effort to find it. But I admit that I have not yet found it. To find Truth completely is to realise oneself and one's destiny to become perfect. I am painfully conscious of my imperfections, and therein lies all the strength I possess because it is a rare thing for a man to know his own limitations."

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"WE must speak the Truth under a shower of bullets."

* * * * *

"TRUTH is superior to man's wisdom."

* * * * *

"THE way of peace is the way of truth. Truthfulness is even more important than peacefulness."

* * * * *

"THE attainment of freedom whether for a man, a nation or the world, must be in exact proportion to the attainment of non-violence by each."

* * * * *

"I WILL not sacrifice truth and ahimsa even for the deliverance of my country or religion. This is as much as to say that neither can be so delivered."

* * * * *

"ALL the religions of the world, while they may differ in other respects, unitedly proclaim that nothing lives in this world but truth."

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"IF observance of truth was a bed of roses, if truth costs one nothing and was all happiness and ease, there would be no beauty about it. We must adhere to truth even if the heavens should fall."

* * * * *

"TRUTH is not truth merely because it is ancient. Nor it is necessarily to be regarded with suspicion because it is ancient. There are some fundamentals of life, which may not be lightly given up because they are difficult of enforcement in one's life."

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"ONLY truth quenches untruth, love quenches anger, self-suffering quenches violence. This eternal rule is a rule not for saints only but for all. Those who observe it may be few but they are the salt of the earth; it is they who keep the society live together, not those who sin against light and truth."

—*Mahatma Gandhi.*

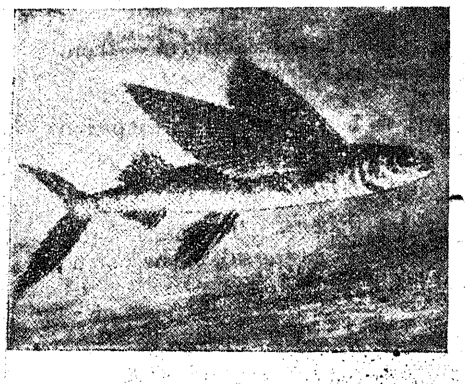
A Peep into the Museum

(The Zoological Galleries)

By S. T. SATYAMURTI, M.A., F.Z.S.

A visit to the Madras Museum provides the visitor with hours of enjoyable sight-seeing which is at once educative and entertaining. The large, airy halls of the Museum exhibiting a wide representative series of specimens of the various principal groups of the animal kingdom contribute not a little towards the keen and absorbing interest that invariably accompanies a peep into this Museum. It can be hardly doubted that an earnest and studied visit to these galleries will not only serve to give the visitor a glimpse into the multifarious curiosities of Nature's creations but also excite in him a keener and more lively interest in the Natural History of his animal friends and foes. In the present article I shall endeavour to take the reader on a brief tour round the zoological galleries, dwelling in somewhat greater detail on a few of the more outstanding exhibits.

At the commencement of the zoological galleries there is a small section devoted to exhibits illustrating the phenomenon of flight in various groups of back-boned animals. Though the power of flight attains the climax of its development in birds, yet it is manifest in varying degrees also in the other well-known groups of higher animals such as fishes, frogs, reptiles and mammals. On one side in this hall, the attention of the visitor is attracted by a group of flying fish displayed as though they are leaping across the air over the surface of the sea. These are the familiar flying fish of the Madras Coast. In this remarkable species both the pectoral and pelvic fins are enlarged and flight is initiated by surface skimming movements, the propulsive power being provided by the side to side sweeping of the caudal fin, the lower lobe of which is longer than the upper. These fish may rise sufficiently high out of the water to be stranded on the decks of ocean-going steamers.



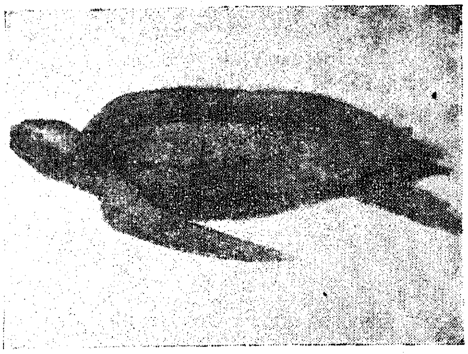
The Flying Fish.

Other examples

Other selected examples of flying vertebrates such as the flying frog, flying lizard and the large Indian fruit bat are also exhibited on the wall in this hall and are accompanied by enlarged X-ray photographs and a large, well-drawn picture of a curious extinct ancestral reptile known as the *Pterodactyl* which possessed a very well developed wing membrane and could fly almost as efficiently as any bird. As the visitor turns away from these mural exhibits a large specimen of a vulture dramatically displaying its full expanse of wings catches his eye and impresses on him the remarkable proficiency which the members of the feathered race have attained in the domain of flight by virtue of the unique adaptive modification of their fore-limbs into the powerful flying organs familiarly known as wings. Besides these, there are also a number of small interesting wall show cases in this gallery containing exhibits illustrating different types of mimicry and colouration, notably among insects. They include the remarkable dead leaf butterfly, the stick insect and the leaf insect which attain an almost incredibly close protective resemblance to their surroundings.

Interesting exhibits

Overhanging the passage between this and the next hall there are two huge tusk-like objects, which at first sight appear to be large, curved logs. These are the massive lower jaw bones of that huge leviathan—the Indian whale or Roquail—the immensity of whose actual size may be readily imagined not only by viewing these jaw bones but also by a glance at the complete articulated skeleton of the same species which hangs suspended from the roof and figures as the dominating feature in the adjoining hall. On entering this gallery, the attention of the visitor is arrested by this colossal skeleton which measures sixty feet in length. The original specimen from which this skeleton was prepared is said to have been cast ashore near Mangalore in 1874. The curious 'baleen' plates of the whale stand out, conspicuously in the skull region as large, comb-like structures, which serve, during life, to strain out the minute shrimps and other marine organisms on which the whale generally feeds.



The Leathery Turtle.

Besides the whale's skeleton, this gallery accommodates a number of other interesting skeletal exhibits such as entire mounted skeletons of the Indian elephant, horse and man, and a massive skull of the African Hippopotamus. Among these the skeletons of the horse and man are of special interest as they are mounted in such a way as to suggest man's capacity for control over the animal in spite of his comparative frailty. The interest of the visitor in this hall will also hover around the two large mammalian exhibits which adorn the gallery, namely, the Orang utan and the Tapir. The Orang utan is an Anthropoid ape found only in the forests of Borneo and Sumatra. The great length of its arms enables the animal to swing rapidly from branch to branch. This ape rarely descends to the ground, and constructs a nest on a tree in which it sleeps at night. The maximum height of the Orang, when standing erect, is about four feet. The specimen exhibited is an adult male and is accompanied by the mounted skeleton of another specimen.

On the opposite side is exhibited the curious mammal known as the Tapir—a herbivorous animal allied to the horse tribe. It is found at the present day in South and Central America and in the Malay Peninsula, Java and Sumatra. It is nocturnal in habit and frequents the most retired places in the forests. Its chief food consists of vegetable

generally fond of water and is said to plunge and walk along the bottom instead of swimming. It is easily tamed when captured. The specimen exhibited is a Malayan Tapir which once lived in the Madras Zoo.

A few birds with particularly bright plumage also catch the eye of the visitor as he brouses around this hall. These include the Macaw, from the tropical South America—a magnificent multi-coloured parrot-like bird, the exquisite little Mandarin duck from China, and the Silver Kaleege pleasant with its graceful ornamental phumage, all of which serve to demonstrate impressively how colourful Mother Nature can be in clothing her children! The visitor will also get a fair idea of the amazing variety of dental and integumentary structures in various animals by glancing at the exhibits displayed in the table show cases along the walls in this gallery.

Passing still further on, the visitor enters a separate section of this gallery which is devoted to a few interesting exhibits relating to the Indian elephant. Here one might see the immense sole of the elephant's foot, with its enormous plate-like nails, the voluminous skull of the elephant sectioned in various planes to display the large vacuities which reduce the brain cavity to a comparatively small size, and a show case containing a miniature model illustrating the method of capturing wild elephants by entrapping them in trenches.

Indian reptiles and amphibians

The visitor will next turn into the adjoining hall on his left, in which are exhibited various specimens of South Indian reptiles and amphibians. Of special interest in this gallery are the huge marine turtles displayed in a large, centrally-placed show case. The four species of turtles exhibited here occur in the Indian ocean and elsewhere in the tropical and sub-tropical seas. Among these, the gigantic leathery turtle deserves special mention. It is the largest of living turtles, attaining eight feet in length, and is scarce everywhere. It is also peculiar in that it differs from all other tortoises and turtles in having its vertebræ and ribs free from the carapace. The Hawk's Bill turtle and the green turtle which are exhibited alongside in this case are also of considerable interest as the former yields the esteemed tortoise shell of commerce and the latter the delicious turtle

Among the other striking exhibits in this gallery, mention should be made of the large crocodiles mounted on the wall, characterised by their heavy armour of plate-like scutes, and accompanied by exhibits of their eggs, developmental stages and young ones, and the giant Monitor lizard (*Varanus*) exhibited together with its mounted skeleton in a central table case. It is the largest species of lizard met with in South India and occasionally attains a length of even six feet in length. It inhabits an underground burrow from which it emerges chiefly at night. It is carnivorous feeding on birds and their eggs and small mammals. The Chameleon with its large eyes, long extensile tongue and prehensile tail, and the small habitat group of the blood-sucker or garden lizard are also special features among the exhibition of lizards in this gallery.

A large number of South Indian examples of snakes are also exhibited along the wall in this gallery. The exhibition of snakes comprise both poisonous and non-poisonous forms, and also includes plaster models of a few snakes which are specially noted for the virulence of their venom such as the Cobra, Krait and Russell's viper; an enlarged model of the head of a poisonous snake and a few sketches and charts explaining interesting points relating to poisonous snakes also add considerably to the instructive value of these exhibits.

The small section devoted to frogs and toads at the further end of this gallery contains a display of specimens representing the various species South Indian amphibians, including an interesting habitat group of the common chunam frog which lays its eggs in a frothy mass on leaves of plants overhanging water so as to enable the young tadpoles, when they hatch out, to gain easy access to water in which element alone they can proceed with their metamorphosis into the adult state. A few peculiar snake-like creatures known as the blind worms or coecilians are also exhibited in this section of the gallery as they are more nearly allied to frogs and toads than to snakes, despite their superficial resemblance to the latter.

Gallery of birds

The large and spacious hall adjoining the reptile gallery is the gallery of birds, into which the visitor will now enter. The exhibition in this gallery includes a large systematic series of specimens of birds representing almost every species met with in South India, but in the present article brief mention can be made only of the most outstanding exhibits. The visitor's attention will be attracted notably by a large, blackish grey, ostrich-like bird exhibited in a case along the wall on the left side of the gallery. This is the curious running bird called the Cassowary. It is confined to the Australian region where it inhabits densely wooded country especially in the neighbourhood of creeks and water courses. It is a very fast runner and can leap over obstacles six feet high. In the wet season it often swims across wide rivers and may even venture into the seas.

There are also other interesting group exhibits of birds in this gallery, which need a brief reference. The weaver birds with their unique, pendant, flask-shaped nests, the white-breasted king fisher with its nest hollowed out in a river bank, the Flamingoes wading on marshy ground with their long, stilt-like legs, the roseate tern flying low over the beach sands and the crows and the kites with their clumsy nests of twigs and sticks will all be observed with great interest by the visitor in the course of his tour round the bird gallery. A remarkable specimen of the Great Hornbill with its enormous beak and a formidable array of heavily-built birds of prey such as falcons, vultures and eagles will also contribute largely towards sustaining the interest of the visitor in this gallery. But perhaps the most colourful sight in this hall is that of a splendid specimen of a male peacock spreading out its superb tail feathers in a gorgeous display of colour and design!

In the next article in this series, we shall resume our tour, commencing with the adjoining hall—the gallery of mammals.

(To be continued)

Groundnut Cake for Cattle in Bombay

The cattle-owners in Bombay City and suburbs who possess 75 or more cattle will now obtain their monthly requirements of groundnut cake direct from the oil mills at the rate of Rs. 130 per ton inclusive of bags, on permits issued by the office of Milk Commissioner.

All other cattle owners who are not covered by direct permits will obtain their requirements through Co-operative Societies

Inflationary Pressure and Economic Recovery*

B. NATARAJAN, M.A., D. LITT., *Economic Adviser to the Government of Madras*

The problem of inflationary pressure assumes greater significance in the context of reconstruction needs in the post-war period than during war. This is partly due to psychological factors brought about by the cessation of hostilities and partly due to changes in technique of production and volume of employment during the transition from War to peace production.

The nature and extent of this pressure varies in different countries depending on their institutional frame work, monetary and fiscal measures pursued during war and the administrative measures such as rationing and price control adopted to see that propensity to spend does not out-run the propensity to save. However there is one factor that is common to all countries affected by war-time inflation, namely, the existence of an unsaturated demand for certain types of consumption goods and investment goods and consequently an accumulation of large personal savings.

This demand asserts itself in the post-war period with varying effects. In the U.S.A., owing largely to the high mobility of American labour and adaptability of American equipment to changes in demand, it resulted in a period of full employment during the later half of 1946 and the whole of 1947. This may not last long. The rise in inventories would be checked by the world shortage of dollars sooner or later and when that happens a recession will ensue which if not properly handled might develop into a depression instead of a corrective.

Inflationary pressure in U.S.A.

The U.S.A. is unique. Its industrial potential is immense and the whole world was lying at its feet to be rehabilitated. The effect of inflationary pressure in U.S.A. therefore was somewhat as that of inflation in its "mild phase". In most other countries of the world, however, we have a different picture. The surplus spending power generated during war could not be absorbed during the transition by expansion of production. Two factors operated against this: (1) scarcity of industrial equipment which had either been destroyed, dismantled or completely worn out during the war and (2) shortage of food and essential raw materials. Recovery therefore was slow. The U.S.A. being almost the sole source for supply of both equipment and food, a scramble for them ensued resulting in acute dollar scarcity. At the same time while reconstruction needs demanded increased rate of investment, various factors largely born of post-war psychology tended to reduce the rate of savings.

The way out of further increase in the inflationary pressure for these countries therefore was to reduce consumption of essential goods and stimulate the rate of savings by adoption of a comprehensive system of controls and rationing and by introduction of monetary and fiscal measures designed to discourage spending. Of the European countries, the United Kingdom and Yugoslovia tried the method of control and rationing while in France, Italy and Poland where controls were half-hearted, fiscal and monetary measures were applied. On the whole, however, inflationary pressure in the United Kingdom was relatively less severe than in other countries of Europe, and the transition has been smooth without any significant unemployment. But the problem of import of food and raw materials in the United Kingdom continues to be acute and a great dis-equilibrium has resulted in her trade with countries of hard and soft currencies which it would take considerable time to find an adjustment.

Reduced production—Crux of the problem

In this matter of incidence of inflationary pressure in the post-war period, the position in India is in many respects the same as in War-devastated countries of Europe. Plant and equipment have been so much and so long over-worked without replacement or repair, that to day the net effects of this "deindustrialisation" are not dis-similar to those brought about by destruction or removal of machinery in the countries directly affected by war. Similarly with regard to food and essential raw materials the effects of the inflationary pressure have been even more disastrous in India than in any country in Europe. The Bengal famine has no parallel in Europe and the shortage of steel and key chemicals in India is not any the less acute than the shortage of coal in Europe. Everywhere both in Europe and India the crux of the problem is diminished production.

Inflationary Pressure in Latin America and India not anaxgous

This being the case, it is curious to find that the United Nations "Survey of Current Inflationary and Deflationary Tendencies" has grouped India with the countries of the Latin America, on the ground that these are "undeveloped" areas in the world. Undeveloped undoubtedly India is and inflationary pressure is in general more acutely felt in countries with a relatively low level of industrialisation. There the parallelism stops; to argue from it, however, that in India as in Latin America the reduction in productive capacity during the transition has not been significant is misleading; for neither in its genesis, nor in its course or incidence has inflation in these countries many things common. Inflationary pressure in the Latin American countries has a common pattern. It came mostly from the enhanced value of exports and reduced volume of imports caused by increase in the United States' demand for agricultural and mineral products and by the military and industrial investments of foreign countries among which the U.S.A. has taken a leading role. Inflation here was not "deficit-induced", as expansion of production required to offset the initial rise in incomes was relatively large.

Inflationary pressure in India, on the other hand, is a function of reduced output, of shortage of food and essential raw materials and lack of replacement of industrial plant and machinery; and that is the central problem of the War-affected countries of Europe too. A series of deficit budgets had been the main-stay of Allied war financing. Latin America, therefore, in spite of its apparently differing economic structure has more things in common with the U.S.A. rather than with India, and its future too is intimately bound up with economic events in the U.S.A. on whose market it has increasingly become dependant for the sale of its products.

Remedial Measures adopted

It is interesting to note in this connection that the measures adopted

* Survey of Current Inflationary and Deflationary Tendencies—United Nations Department of Economic Affairs Series A. [illegible] [Sep]tember 1947.

by India to relieve the inflationary pressure in the post-war period are almost the same as those adopted by certain countries of Europe affected by War. Not succeeding in a thorough-going system of controls and rationing, India has adopted far reaching measures of financial and fiscal reform. In fact, the first post-war annual budget of Independent India is a vigorous essay on combating inflation by the accepted methods of proper budgetting and increased direct taxation. Presenting his budget, the Hon'ble Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chettiar, the Finance Minister of India, said:

> An inflationary pressure resulting from too much money chasing too few goods has been the key note of our present economy. At such a juncture we should exert every nerve to budget for a surplus, if possible by increasing revenue and curtailing expenditure. The methods by which these aims are achieved are important, because as the present phase of inflation is due to an abundance of spending power without the goods to spend on, we must see that a surplus is achieved in such a way as to curtail spending and create suitable incentives for increasing production. In other words, the tax burdens laid must be met by cutting down expenditure on consumption and not by saving less. Similarly the borrowing made must be from genuine savings and not from inflated bank credit.

The taxes proposed and the relief to industry provided are all designed towards fighting inflation and stimulating production.

Increased Agricultural Production

It is, however, well to realise that surplus budgetting and fiscal reforms have their limitation. They are no solution to a food shortage involving imports worth Rs. 100 crores annually and an acute shortage of essential industrial equipment and raw materials without which increased industrial output is impossible to achieve. The solution to food shortage lies only in a concerted drive for increased agricultural production. This would require far-reaching changes not only in the technique of production but also in the social and economic environment. Too often are we led to believe that a mere change in the ownership of land would bring about increased output. The magic of property cannot turn sand into gold as long the production technique remains primitive. Bold measures are needed to tackle a problem of such magnitude. The fact that Britain by mechanizing her agriculture was able to raise agricultural output by 70 per cent in terms of calories should be both a warning and example to India.

American Aid Essential

As regards import of capital plant and equipment and key raw materials needed for increased output, nothing short of a comprehensive plan of American Aid will solve India's immediate problem, and indeed the thesis set out in the preceding paragraphs has been to establish that India richly merits it. What exactly is the form it should take, whether as a loan, or deferred payment or gratuitous aid is a matter for detail. But it is in the interest of the U.S.A. itself to take early steps to extend the aid, if only the recession that has already set in is not to develop into a major depression, world-wide in its sweep and cataclysmal in its effects, as it is bound to be. More than ever, the words of Abraham Lincoln that the world cannot be half bond and half free appear opposite in the economic sphere. Again and again the lesson has to be brought home to the West that on the rehabilitation of the teeming millions of Asia does depend the rehabilitation of the entire world.

[Since this article reached us, we are glad to learn that the Government of India have taken steps to negotiate a loan with the International Monetary Fund. The recent speech of the U.S. Ambasador in India, Dr. Henry Grady, lends support to the views expressed by the author—*Editor*.]

Prohibition News Letter

The following is a brief summary of the reports received from the various prohibition districts regarding ameliorative activities:—

Malabar.—The first rural uplift school in the district was declared open by the Collector on 14th February 1948. The strength of the school is 49. The jaggery production societies in the Tellicherry division are taking part in the All-India Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition at Tellicherry. A stall has been allotted to the Jaggery Production Societies free of rent. A Land Colonization Co-operative Society has been organized in Wynad taluk; in order to provide the ex-tappers with work, it is proposed to admit them as mber

alem.—One new Ex-tappers' was started in the latter part of February. Firka I tournaments took place as usual and these were largely attended. There were also various items of recreation. The Attur taluk tournament, rural exhibition and cattle show were conducted on 20th February 1948. Indigenous games, sports, folk dances, kummi and kolattam were some of the more important events. There were speeches on rural uplift. The propaganda van was in attendance and a film on milk production was shown. There were other cattle shows also during the month which were also largely attended. The Collector presided over the first Firka Development Committee meeting. The Committee sanctioned road-works, drinking water wells, park and radio. Villagers at one place are building a school out of public donations. The rural uplift school for the Hosur division was inaugurated on 26th February 1948.

Cuddapah.—There were divisional tournaments in which several teams took part. These were largely attended by many including ex-addicts.

Trichinopoly.—A rural exhibition and cattle show was held at Musiri on 24th February 1948, in connection with the closing of the rural uplift school. Several Government departments, Co-operative societies and individuals took part in the exhibition. Not less than 6,000 people witnessed the exhibition including many exaddicts. Tournaments were also held in which villagers took part. Prizes were distributed to winners and certificates were awarded for the best exhibits.

Chittoor.—Three gramasangams and three rural recreation clubs were organized in Chandragiri division. Indigenous games were played as usual and there were firka tournaments also. Bhajanas and harikathas were performed in many places. A village library and a reading room were al

inaugurated during the month. Contributions were also raised for constructing a community hall and a reading room in one place. Street cleaning drive was another activity during the month. A cattle show was held during tournament in one place and prizes were awarded for best bulls. Two dramas were staged and they were largely attended.

Kurnool.—It has been decided to encourage rope making, shoe making, carpentry, spinning, etc., as cottage industries. One ex-addict has purchased a buffalo from his savings and another has bought ornaments worth Rs. 150, while yet another has saved Rs. 500 and purchased two bulls and a cart from his savings. Street cleaning drives were also organized during February. Some of the gramasangams are maintaining libraries and reading rooms. In one place, steps are being taken for the formation of a co-operative house building society. The villagers in another have decided to hold an Industrial, Agricultural and Health Exhibition and a cattle show as well. An amount of Rs. 120 has been collected for purchasing and maintaining a stud bull in one place.

Guntur.—The second rural uplift school in the district started on 26th February 1948.

South Kanara.—A rural uplift school was declared open on 23rd February. Earlier in the day the students of the school took out a procession to the accompaniment of band and music shouting prohibition slogans along the principal streets of the town.

Tanjore.—Five co-operative societies for manufacture of palmyrah jaggery were organized during February. Hundi boxes were also distributed during February. There was also a cattle show and rural exhibition at Nagapattinam.

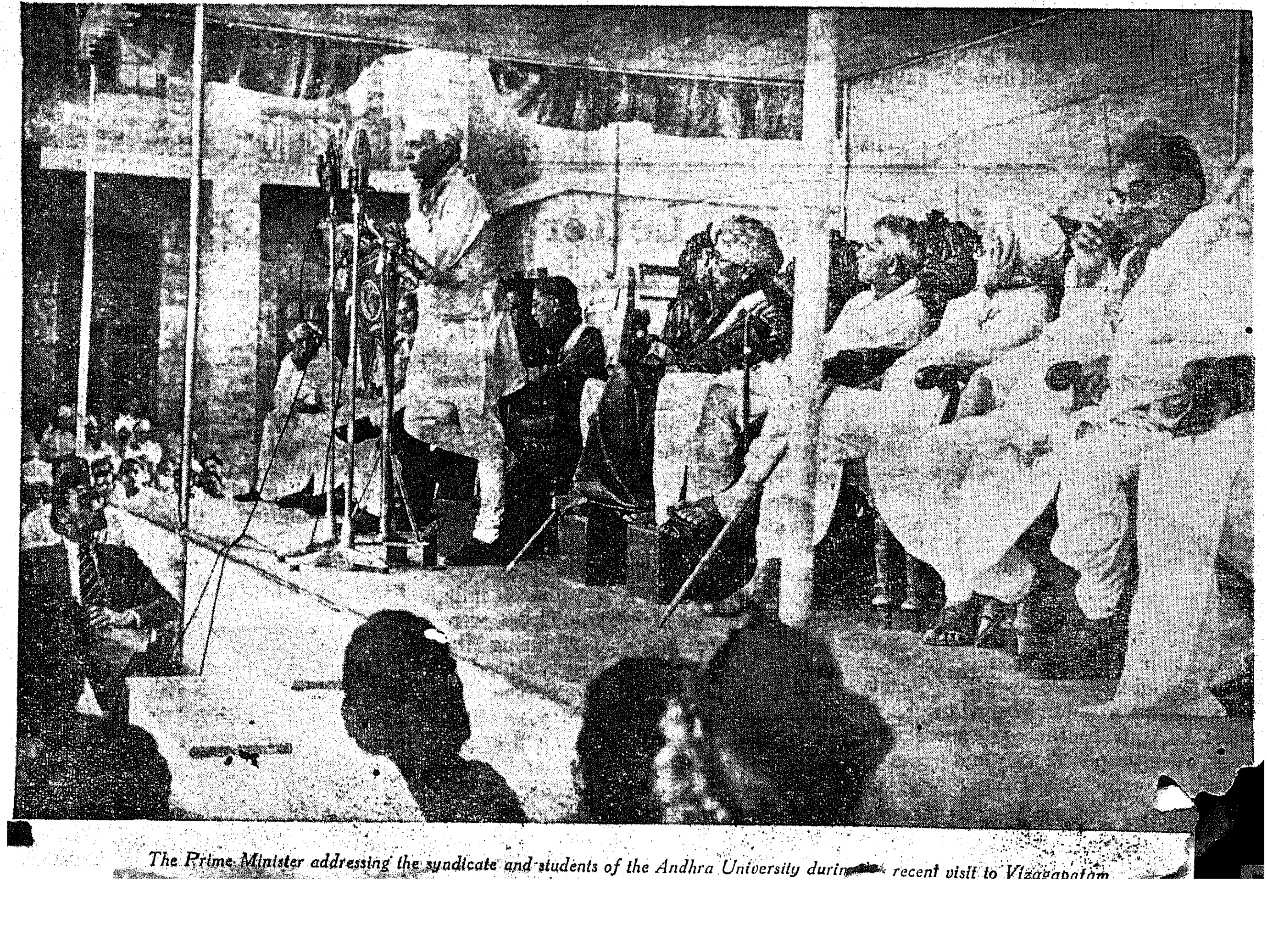
Coimbatore.—The Collector addressed meetings on rural uplift in several villages during February. A rural uplift school was inaugurated on 23rd February 1948. The gramasanghams continued to do useful work. One gramasangham has constructed an elementary school at a cost of Rs. 750. Indigenous sports took place as usual.

Madura.—The second rural uplift school was started on 24th February 1948. Eight palmyrah jaggery manufacture societies were also organized during February. Licences have been issued to members of five societies which have commenced production. The jaggery produced has been successfully marketed.

South Arcot.—There was a variety of entertainment under the auspices of the gramasangham during February, for the purpose of raising funds for a village hall to serve as a community centre.

Bellary.—Reading rooms were opened in two places during February. One gramasangam has opened a boarding house for the poor boys in elementary schools. Public subscriptions in the shape of foodgrains to the value of Rs. 600 have so far been collected. A Village Betterment Committee has taken up proposals for constructing a godown-*cum*-reading room. A cattle show was held in one place and prizes were awarded for the best animals. An interesting programme of recreation was provided to the labourers in the Tungabhadra dam area.

Nilgiris.—Tournaments were held during February which were largely attended. A cinema company gave a benefit performance in aid of the rural uplift school fund.



The Prime Minister addressing the syndicate and students of the Andhra University during recent visit to Vizagapatam

Indian News Parade

Grants for Backward Classes' Uplift

The Government of Bombay have sanctioned the payment of additional recurring grants of Rs. 20,800 to the voluntary agencies and associations like the Harijan Sewak Sanghs, etc., working for the amelioration of the conditions of the Backward Classes subject to certain conditions.

* * *

More Trees in West Punjab

The West Punjab Government is preparing a scheme under which more land is proposed to be brought under forests and facilities will be provided to agriculturists to grow more trees round their fields and in the open waste lands in villages.

Not more than 2·6 per cent of the land is under forest in West Punjab. According to western standards, 20 to 25 per cent of the total area of any country should be afforested. After the partition the West Punjab received 956,160 acres of the forest area which is only 28 per cent of the total area of the undivided Punjab forests.

This, combined with the dwindling state of existing forests in the province resulting in acute shortage in the supply of firewood for the urban population, has been engaging the anxious attention of the Government and the outcome is the scheme referred to above.

* * *

Development Board in Bihar

The Government have constituted with immediate effect a Board to advise them in repect of the policy and administration of the Agriculture, Co-operative and Veterinary including Animal Husbandry departments. The Minister for Development will be the Chairman of the Board which consists of 48 members.

The main functions of the Board will be—

(1) to advise on important schemes and projects of the departments.

(2) to advise on the general policy [illegible]f the departments.

[illegible]o suggest methods of popu[illegible]ng the schemes of departments [illegible]y in operation, and

(4) to study the working of the departments and to take practical steps to improve them.

* * *

Prohibition Poster Competition in Bombay

It has been decided to hold a 'Prohibition Poster Competition' under the auspices of the Provincial Prohibition Board of the Government of Bombay. The subjects for the competition are "DRINK IS AN EVIL" or "BETTER LIFE THROUGH PROHIBITION." Three prizes of Rs. 250, Rs. 150 and Rs. 100 respectively, shall be awarded to the three best entries selected by a panel of judges.

* * *

Three terms for Primary and Secondary in Bombay

The academic year for the primary and secondary schools will now be broken up into three shorter terms, instead of the existing two terms, as a result of the acceptance by the Government of Bombay of the recommendations made by the Provincial Boards of Primary and Secondary Education and accepted by the Provincial Education Council.

* * *

Panchayats in U.P.

A conference of District Officers, Subdivisional Officers and Officers of all nation-building departments of Lucknow Division was held recently and it was announced that 50,000 Panchayats and 10,000 Panchayati Adalats would be established in the province. Arrangements for practical training would be made after the election was over.

* * *

A Bombay Land Measure

The Government of Bombay have directed that the District Rural Development Boards should be treated as the District Advisory Committees for the purpos es of section 4 (1) of the Bombay Prevention of Fragmentation and Consolidation of Holdings Act, 1947.

Military Training in U.P.

The U.P. Government have decided to introduce compulsory military training in educational institutions from class IX to class XII.

The form of training will be completed at selected places and of a preparatory character at other places.

The details of the scheme are being worked out, and it is proposed to appoint immediately a director of military training to assist the Government in the matter.

* * *

Housing Programme in Bombay

The actual work of construction commenced on 27th June 1947. The programme envisages the construction of 125,000 tenements in a period of five years of which 15,000 would be put up by the Government and the rest will be in the shape of independent or assisted construction through employers, local bodies, co-operative societies and private enterprise.

* * *

Prohibition Propaganda in Bombay

There are two aims with which the propaganda machinery of Government for Prohibition will operate. The first of these aims is to educate the masses about the evils of drink and the benefits of Prohibition. The second one is to entertain them and thus provide them with healthy substitutes for the drink habit. There are many means of propaganda such as the cinema, the drama, poems, the radio, bhajans, kirtans, powadas, kalapathaks, graphs, charts, maps, pictures, etc., and the Bombay Government have decided to make full use of all these media in carrying out province-wide propaganda.

* * *

Compost making in Bombay

The Government of Bomaby have sanctioned the proposals for amalgamating the existing, two separate schemes for compost making, *viz.*, (i) Scheme for Co-operative or Collective Compost making and (ii) Scheme for Compost making in Rural Areas, into one scheme.

The new amalgamated scheme is sanctioned for f[illegible]ur years from April 1, 1948 at [illegible] estimated cost of Rs. 23,63,928. The District Agricultural officers who have been made responsible for all agricultural activiti

in the districts will supervise the proper working of this scheme.

* * *

Drive against Illiteracy in C.P.

The C.P. Ministry have an elaborate scheme for Adult Education. This ambitious plan proposes to harness the services of the educated to the service of the illiterate and it is hoped that in the course of five years illiteracy would be liquidated and fifteen million adults made literate. The cost estimated is two crores of rupees.

To achieve the objects of the scheme the Board of adult education have decided to request the Government to compel every teacher in all types and grades of educational institutions in the province to undertake education of illiterate adults every year and enable them to secure the Adult Education Certificate. Government have also been requested to compel the staff of institutions under their control to undertake this work in the manner suggested and to seek the good offices of the High School Education Board and the Universities of Nagpur and Saugor, the local bodies in the province and the managers of private institutions to introduce similar measures.

* * *

Communal Ratio in Bihar

The Government of Bihar have decided to abolish communal reservation in Government services in the province. Appointments will henceforth be made strictly on the results of competition where recruitment is made by open competition and as regards posts which are not filled by competition, recruitment will be made approximately in proportion to the strength of various communities in the population of the province. Exceptions will only be made in the case of aboriginal tribes and scheduled castes and 14 per cent and 12 per cent of the vacancies filled by direct recruitment will be reserved for them respectively.

Wage Boards in Bombay

Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda, Minister for Labour, disclosed at a meeting of the Provincial Labour Advisory Board that the Government of Bombay have under consideration proposals for the constitution of Wage Boards for different industries and a Provincial Labour Board to deal with questions of common interest to various industries. He added that the proposals would be incorporated in a Bill to amend the Bombay Industrial Relations Act which would soon be brought before the provincial Legislature.

* * *

Educational Programme in West Bengal

While addressing a Press Conference Mr. Harindranath Roy Choudhury, Minister for Education, West Bengal, said that the Government were setting up a Committee to formulate a scheme of adult education and had also decided that basic education should replace, the existing system of primary education in rural areas. A representative Committee of educationalists would investigate the entire system of school education and there will be a separate Committee to go into the question of higher education. He also disclosed that a Bill to form a Board of Secondary Education would be introduced shortly.

* * *

Sind's Prohibition Drive

The Government of Sind, in pursuance of their prohibition Policy, are reported to have passed orders directing that all country liquor shops should be closed throughout the province on all Fridays, Gazetted holidays of both Hindus and Muslims, as well as on all such days when the labourers receive their monthly pay.

* * *

Irrigation in U.P.

The irrigation schemes in the five-year plan aimed at increasing the irrigated area in the province by 1·66 million acres. The total area irrigated from irrigation works at the end of 1945–46 was 5,953,790 acres ; it increased to 5,971,640 acres in 1946–47 as a result of construction of new channels and tubewells. At the end of the current year (1947–48), it was expected to be 6,108,603 acres.

The total length of canals to be constructed in the fiv-year plan is 7,600 miles. The total length of irrigation canals in the province at the end of 1945–46, was 17,821 miles. During 1946–47, 250 miles of new canals were added. During 1948–49 it is intended to add another 300 miles. Seven hundred and eighty miles of new channels are expected to be completed during the year which will irrigate about 128,000 acres resulting in an extra yield of about 23,000 tons of foodgrains.

* * *

Preservation of Forests in West Bengal

The West Bengal Private Forests Bill, 1948, has been passed in the West Bengal Assembly.

The Bill, in its statement of objects and reasons stated that indiscriminate denudation of forests by tenants and private owners in this province had resulted in soil erosion on a considerable scale making large tracts of land bare and unproductive. The gradual disappearance of forests had also rendered certain parts of the province more liable to floods and drought and had seriously affected the supply of timber and firewood for local consumption. To cope with this alarming situation, safeguard the larger interests of the community and to confer at the same time permanent benefit on private owners by providing for the conservation and improvement of their forests and the afforestation of waste lands this Bill had been brought before the House.

It is easy to break up things—Not to construct

In judging of the circumstances in our own country, we have to consider all manner of factors and we have to plan accordingly and go ahead step by step so as not to break up something we have got without replacing it immediately with something better. It is fairly easy to break up things. It is not so easy to construct. It is quite possible that in an attempt to change the economic system you may have a period of semi-disaster. You may even stop production which we aim at. Ultimately, perhaps very gradually, you may build up a new kind of apparatus. But for the moment you may break up the existing apparatus. That is undesirable when all our energies have to be concentrated on production.

—*Pandit Jawharlal Nehru*

Ideas and Ideals

Charity and Good Conduct

His Excellency Sri C. Rajagopalachari said recently in the course of a speech at Calcutta :

"In this mysterious world, prosperity is just an accident. If you possess money, remember that it is an accident, and that God will not permit the accident to continue for too long. You must therefore spend your money on good and worthy objects while you still have it. Money given in charity is money well spent. Nothing is permanent in this world except charity and good conduct."

* * *

Sound Advice

Addressing the police officers and the recruits under training, His Excellency Sir Chandulal Trivedi, Governor of East Punjab, said "When you leave this training centre to take up your posts, you will be called upon to perform vital functions and bear great responsibilities. On you will fall the task of maintaining security of life and property and preserving the public peace. I sincerely trust that the training which you are receiving here will enable you into discharge this task to the satisfaction of the Government as also of the public."

The Governor then dwelt on the qualities of a good police officer, who should be firm, energetic, impartial, disciplined and honest, and, at the same time, courteous and considerate to the public.

His Excellency laid special emphasis on honesty and impartiality.

He added: "We must always remember that all of us, from the highest to the lowest, are public servants. In other words, you and I exist to serve the public. Friends, I have full faith in you and I know that you will enter upon your new duties with full determination. You will perform them zealously and impartially and with single-minded devotion to public good."

His Excellency asked Government servants—not behave as if they were masters of the public and lords of the earth. He reminded them that they were now in a free country, having a national Government, and appealed to them to behave as true public servants, both in word and deed.

In conclusion, he said: "We are passing through difficult times, Peace and security are two of our greatest needs. We have lawless and subversive elements in our midst. We have the poisonous communal force working round us. You will shortly be guardians of law and order and well and truly may you guard law and order."

In the Dominion Parliament

Hyderabad-Madras Border

Questions and Answers

Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty, Finance Minister, replying for Sardar Patel, States Minister, said in the Dominion Parliament on March 19, that it was a fact that there had been repeated infiltration of Muslim troops or Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen Razakars inside Indian Union territory.

It would take time for the steps taken to become completely effective but certainly the Hyderabad authorities knew that there was a limit to the patience of the Government of India in this matter.

The Government of India were impressing upon the Hyderabad Government that even in the interest of the Hyderabad State itself, there should be responsible Government to deal with the irresponsible and violent forces and they were still hoping that Hyderabad would accept their advice.

Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava asked whether it was a fact that there had been repeated infiltration of Muslim [illegible]ops or Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen Raza[illegible]ng the last two months [illegible] the Union territory and inside the Provinces of Madras, Bombay and Central Provinces.

Mr. Chetty replied in the affirmative and said that the number of incidents in the Central Provinces and Berar during January and February 1948 was 16, involving loss of life of one person and estimated loss of property worth about Rs. 16,000. Information from the Madras and Bombay Governments had not yet been received.

Q.—What steps have the Government taken so far to check the repetition of such incidents ?

A.—The matter is under discussion with the Hyderabad Government and I would invite the member's attention to Mr. Gadgil's speech on March 15, 1948.

Q.—Have the Government made any protest to the Nizam's Government on the point and, if so, with what result.

A.—Yes. The Hyderabad Government have promised to do their best to prevent these border incidents.

Compensation for Sufferers

Seth Govind Das asked who was going to pay compensation to the sufferers, the Hyderabad Government or anybody else.

Mr. Chetty said that the matter was still under discussion with the Government of Hyderabad and it would be for the Government of India later on in the light of these discussions to decide whether they should press Hyderabad to pay compensation for these losses.

Prof. Ranga: In the case of these raids that are being made from Hyderabad territory into our territory by the Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen and the Communists, have the Government experienced any co-operative spirit on the part of Hyderabad State in bringing to book the perpetrators of these raids and also in recovering looted property ?

Mr. Chetty: As a result of talks between our Agent-General at Hyderabad and the Prime Minister of Hyderabad, it has now been arranged that there will be joint inspection of these border areas by the police of Hyderabad and the province concerned. We are hoping that with this joint inspection conditions will improve.

Arms for Border People

Replying to the same member, Mr. Chetty said that the Central and Provincial Governments were fully alive to the need for preventing these border raids. In fact, to enable the Provincial Governments concerned to arm the police in these areas, the Central Government was approached for the supply of arms and they have taken steps for the supply of arms. The tactics of these raiders had been just to rush in and then immediately disappear and unless there was whole-hearted co-operation on the part of the authorities of Hyderabad State, there could not be an effective stoppage of these raids. The Government of India had taken up this matter very strongly with the Hyderabad Government.

Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh asked whether, in view of the fact that news of killings and looting was coming in every day, the Government would not admit that the steps taken were most ineffective.

Mr. Chetty replied that after all it would take time for the steps taken to become completely effective but certainly the Hyderabad authorities knew that there was a limit to the patience of the Government of India in this matter.

Mr. Kamath : Has it come to the notice of the Government that the so-called Communists who are creating trouble are really Razakars masquerading as Communist forces ?

Mr. Chetty : Quite possible.

Replying to another supplementary, Mr. Chetty said that the Government would certainly consider the question of arming Union nationals on the Hyderabad border if things became very serious.

Future of Razakars

Replying to Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava, Mr. Chetty said that the whole position of the Razakars' organization was under discussion with the Nizam's Government and he regretted that it would not be in the public interests to disclose the Government's views on these matters at this stage.

In reply to Mr. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, Mr. Chetty said that the Government of India were impressing upon the Hyderabad Government that even in the interest of the Hyderabad State itself there should be responsible Government to deal with these irresponsible and violent forces and they were hoping that Hyderabad would accept their advice in this matter.

Answering another member, Mr. Chetty said that the Government had no reason to suspect that the Hyderabad Government was in league with the Razakars.

Again in answer to Mr. Ayyangar, Mr. Chetty said that fixing of a time limit did not help in the solution of these difficult problems.

Need for Responsible Government

Mr. Krishnamurthy Rao asked whether the Indian Government had asked the Hyderabad Government to ban the Razakars.

Mr. Chetty said that the Government of India had not asked them to ban any association but had impressed upon the Government of Hyderabad the urgent need for that Government to keep stricter control over the irresponsible elements in their own State.

Replying to more questions, Mr. Chetty said that certainly the Government of India would see that so far as it lay in their power, before the termination of the Standstill Agreement a more satisfactory relationship was established between the Government of India and the Government of Hyderabad.

Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava : Have the negotiations between the Government of India and the Nizam's Government regarding the breach of the Standstill Agreement by the Nizam's Government caused by the investment of Rs. 20 crores in Pakistan securities and the promulgation of the Currency Ordinance led to any material results ? If not, what steps do the Government propose to take against the Nizam's Government and if not, why not ?

Mr. Chetty said that the negotiations were being continued. The latter question did not arise.

Books and Publications

'LABOUR IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA.'
Edited by Dr. P. P. PILLAI
Published by Padma Publications for Indian Council of World Affairs.

The book 'Labour in South-East Asia', edited by Dr. P. P. Pillai and published by the Indian Council of World Affairs is a symposium giving in outline a picture of labour conditions prevailing in the countries of South-East Asia bounded on either side by India and China and including the islands in the vicinity of this region. The book consists of nine chapters, each devoted to one of the countries in the area, viz., India, Ceylon, Burma, Malaya, Indonesia, Siam, Philippines, Indo-China and China. As is only natural in any symposium of articles by different writers, the method of approach to the problems dealt with in the various chapters is not uniform ; but an attempt has been made to give adequate basic data about the industrial development and labour conditions in the countries forming South-East Asia. The arrested economic development of this depressed area is partly due to the fact that the economic policy of a large part of this area till recently was dictated by the Colonial Powers. One marked feature of this region is the continued preponderance of agricultural labour among the working population who form a major part of the population of the area. It is true that there has been a perceptible development of industry and commerce in this region as in the rest of the world as a result of the two world wars. With the rise in the cost of living consequent on these wars and the failure of the wage level to keep pace with it, industrial disputes, and labour problems have figured prominently in the industrial life of these countries especially in India. The various protective enactments and the programmes of labour reforms undertaken in each country with special reference to the impetus given by the International Labour Organization have been indicated in each chapter. So far as the chapter in India is concerned a few omissions are noticed. There is no reference to the Weekly Holidays Act, 1942, and the work done under the Industrial Statistics Act, 1942. No special mention has also been made of the work done in respect of industrial housing, nutrition, resettlement and employment, nor is there any reference to the work of Tripartite Conference on Plantations and the Health Survey and Development Committee (Bhore Committ[illegible] so far as it concerns indust[illegible] After the report was publishe[illegible] Industrial Disputes Act, 19[illegible]

Trade Unions (Amendment) Act regarding recognition of trade unions and the Factories (Amendment) Act regarding canteens have become law. Mention is made about the need for strengthening the Factory Inspectorate and legislation for smaller factories and commercial establishments. The Government of Madras have since April 1947 increased the strength of the Factory Inspectorate in the Province from 11 to 22 besides the Deputy Chief Inspector of Factories and three Inspectresses of Factories; and there are now 13 Labour Conciliation Officers in this Province to look after the interests of the labourers in Industrial undertakings and plantations.

Within the brief space of about 49 pages devoted to India a fair amount of statistical data and particulars of work done for labour in India have been given. To be of real advantage, a symposium of this kind should be published at least once a year if the statistical and other data are to be kept up-to-date and a comparative study of conditions in different countries will be useful for drawing up and executing schemes for the improvement of labour conditions in each country.

Publications of this type should invariably contain a bibliography and an index. —R.M.S.

The FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION in the MADRAS MUNICIPALITIES. *By* V. VENKATA RAO, M.A., M.LITT., *Politics and Public Administration Department, Madras University. Published by Chunilal D. Barivala, Director, The Local Self-Government Institute, Bombay. Price, Rs. 2.*

The title of the book indicates more or less its subject matter. In 8 chapters it seeks to cover the entire range of the financial side of District Municipal Administration. Budget, Revenue Administration, Grants-in-aid, Loan Administration, Expenditures, Purchasing, Accounting and Audit are the title heads of the chapters and under each head the author has attempted to deal exhaustively with the subject. There is an introduction in which the term financial administration is defined. The book is a documented one and may prove useful to those engaged in municipal administrations as well as those interested in it.

There is, however, one point to be [illegible]ed in regard to the contents. A [illegible] the general structure of a [illegible]y, its composition and his-[illegible]rigin would have provided a suitable background. When the financial side of any organization is dealt with, it will only be appropriate if some light is thrown on the structure and shape of the entire organization. That would certainly add to making matters clear and enable the reader to see things in the proper perspective.

—T.K.G.

LECTURES ON ROMAN LAW. *By* I. M. NANAVATI, B. COM., LL.B., *Published by Chandrakant C. Vora, Gandhi Road, Ahmedabad. Price Rs. 3.*

The study of Roman Law is really as bug-bear to the students of Law, in that all the recognized text-books on the subject are interspersed with Latin terms and expressions which are not easily made out and remembered.

Professor Nanavati, the author of the book under review in a series of lectures, has made the subject easy and interesting; and ably supplied the long felt want of Law students.

This handbook serves as a guide to the study of Standard works on Roman Law. It is also intended to refresh the memory of the students at the time of examination.

The price of the book is moderate and every student of Law will do well to have a copy of the book for ready reference.

—E.N.M.

BAPU SACRIFICED FOR MOSLEMS. *By* KESHAV ABHYANKAR. *The New World Publishing Society, 6, Venkatachala Naick Street, Triplicane, Madras. Pages 60. Price As. 12.*

In this booklet the author has set down his reflections on the tragedy that has shaken the world—the Mahatma's assassination. The poignant grief of the orphaned nation is vividly pictured in the first few pages. Fifteen pages have been devoted to the reproduction of extracts from the messages that powered in from all over the world.

In the latter part of the book the author tries to analyse the forces that led to, what he calls, the eruption of the man-made volcano. His contention is that a superficial approach to the communal problem, had boosted the Muslim League, and that the price is now being paid for the fatal blunder of the vivisection of India. According to him, the futility and failure of non-violence have been too clearly proved. He [illegible] of the opinion that if only our national leaders had not bungled, in the name of diplomacy, and surrendered in the name of compromise, but had mobilised earlier, the pent-up energies of the people and 'turned them dynamically into an all-out rebellion against imperialism,' imperialism and its by-product, disruptionism would have been consumed in the righteous conflagration, making vivisection and Pakistan out of question.

Whatever view is taken of his analysis it cannot be gainsaid that this is hardly the time for such post-mortem examination. The need of the hour is a sober appeal for constructive co-operation and united effort towards healing the wound that has bled the land. It is limiting and insulting Bapu's greatness to say that he has been sacrificed for Muslims; in truth he has been sacrificed for the sake of the entire humanity which has yet to learn the lesson of love and truth. The memory of the noble martyr should act as a spur to greater sacrifice and closer unity. It will be a sacrilege, to indulge in utterances that will help to raise the head of the hideous differences, that are today bowed down ashamed at their own crime. —K.D.

THE LAMENT. *By* SANQ. *Published by N. S. Rao, 4/776, Tilak Road, Bombay 14. Pages 59. Price Rs. 3-4-0.*

This is a book of sonnets in four sequences, portraying the story of a nation in bondage, being led by Gandhiji, the light of love, to freedom and deliverance. The first fourteen sonnets relate how the land of 'golden sons and daughters' had been plunged in griefs and groans, by the bonds of slavery. Then out of misery was born the lonely hope, and freedom was won. 'A people's soul can never die.'

The next 28 sonnets deal with the Calcutta and Delhi fasts of Gandhiji. 'Sheath the sword and save the saint' was the cry that rose from every corner as Gandhiji lay 'resigned in deathly vow for other's sin.'

The last seven sonnets are wrung out of the agony into which the nation was plunged at Gandhiji's death. But in truth the author knows, there is no reason for grief; [illegible]or the 'light can never die'; set [illegible] may; but rise it must once more in the sky.' Death's silence, then will have million tongues, singing songs of love and truth.

The author ends his lament on the note that if only the dreams that Gandhiji dreamed become 'worlds begot', his death will not be in vain. Deeply moving in their pathos, as the sonnets are, there is yet a sublime serenity about them. Philosophy and patriotism have been blended in the message of cosmic oneness. —K.D.

OUR INDUSTRIAL PROBLEM. *By* K. V. KARANTHA. *Published by Harsh Printery and Publications, Puttur, S. Kanara, Rs. 1-8-0.*

This booklet is an attempt by a technologist to explain the implications of decentralization to bring about a new orientation in the matter of industrial expansion so as to prevent uneven distribution of wealth and the ravaging effects of unemployment. The author approaches and analyses the problem from the economic, humanitarian and the practical points of view and arrives at a "working compromise" between complete mechanization and the non-power Cottage Industry.

Conditions obtaining in India are far different from those of other new-world countries like U.S.A. or Canada where population is quite small compared to the vastness of natural resources. Hence the parrot-like repetition of western methods of mass production "will be adding some more millions to the host of 300 millions half-starved farmers and famished landless labourers." The solution is sought in gradual decentralization of industries. Centralization results in concentration of power—political and economic—in the hands of a few; the rest have to be slaves. Besides the dehumanising effect, which machines in general have, centralisation tends to curb the initiative and stunts the growth of workers. The transition from centralized industries to decentralization can and should be effected without plunging the country into chaos and confusion by carefully breaking up into small units those older industries which were flourishing on a fairly large scale as cottage units in India until the mechanical age set in, and setting them up in villages so as to make them the centres of production and distribution of consumer goods and self-sufficient in all walks of life. There are certain industries with which we have no option but to adopt the modern large scale process developed and practised by the rest of the world. The author explains with facts and figures, how the various industries especially the textile industry can effectively be decentralized with the help of new and beneficial modern inventions. While himself a wearer of Khadi and believer in village industries movement, he does not accord complete recognition to all the implications of Khadi Scheme and as has been said in the beginning, advocates a working compromise between a manually operated Charka and a huge spinning Mill, without the least unemployment while greatly increasing production. "The power driven Cottage loom can successfully face the competition of centralized textile mills." Regarding the state ownership and control of industries the author is of opinion that State should own and control the centralized heavy industries and protect and help decentralized "miniature factory units" from world competition till they gain ground. He concludes with an emphatic appeal to the politician as well as to the technologist for better understanding and co-operation in solving our Industrial problems. —M.A.K.

THE RHYMED ENGLISH GEETA OR DIVINE SONG. *By* KAMESHWAR PRASAD, *Bhagalpur. Price Rs. 3; Foreign, Rs. 5.*

The Geeta can justly be proclaimed a world classic. It has been rendered in all the main languages of the world and its teachings have permeated the cultural evolution of many a race. Its non-sectarian outlook constitutes its unique appeal to the world. What the Geeta has done is to achieve a synthetic analysis of Hindu religions and secular thought, bringing within its compass all established systems of Hindu religions concept and practice. It has succeeded in the well nigh impossible task of combining the highest spiritual thought with the highest mundane ideal, i.e., the Philosophy of action or duty. That is why all schools of thought in India have written their own commentaries or interpreted the Geeta according to their way of thinking. The very fact that a book lends itself to such varied application is in itself a remarkable achievement and that is why Geeta stands unique among the great books of the world.

To render such a work in English verse, that too when it is done by an Indian, is by no means an easy task. Every word in the Geeta is an electric switch that turns on a world of thought with unending ramifications. It is not easy to find parallel expressions in other languages—terseness and profundity are its special features. Considering these handicaps and limitations, the author's attempt is praiseworthy. Dr. Barnett, the Great Orientalist, has already attempted the translation of the Geeta in English verse, and Mr. Prasad's work may well serve as an Indian counterpart of the English work. On the whole, one may agree with Sri Dwaraka Prasad, who has written the foreword to the book, that the author has succeeded in rendering this work into English verse, "sweet to hear, very much appealing to the heart of the younger folk to enable the reader to grasp the subject easily."

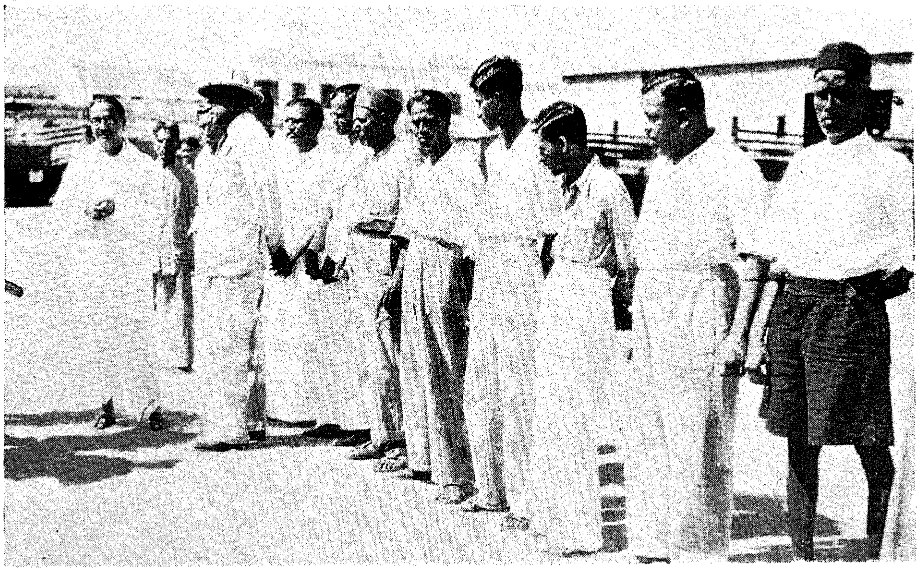
—K.C.N.

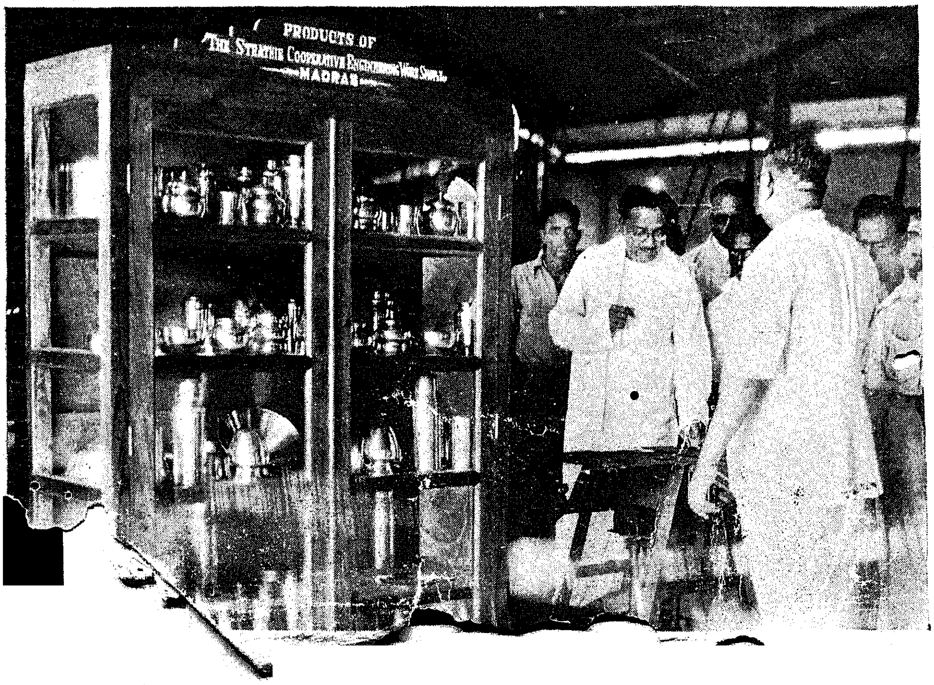
TOPICAL PAMPHLETS

In view of the increasing demand for the Topical Pamphlets published by the Department of Information and Publicity, it has been decided to print the more important of them in a book form. The printing is expected to be over shortly. Such of those as would like to have them are requested to book their orders in advance.

Hon'ble Minister for Industries is seen with the Director and Deputy Director of Resettlement and Employment who explained to him the working of the various employment offices in the Presidency. The Presidency map with the areas indicated is seen in the background

Sri Sitarama Reddi, Industries Minister with the staff of the Strathie Engineering Workshops for Ex-servicemen





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